

Japan condemns expulsions

AMMAN (R) — Japan Sunday condemned Israel's expulsion of 13 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza and said it ran against Middle East peace efforts. "Japan condemns the deportation of 13 more Palestinians by the Israeli government on Jan. 1 from the occupied territories as this act is in defiance of Japan's appeal and of international condemnation," said a Foreign Ministry statement issued by the Japanese embassy. The statement said the expulsion was contrary to U.N. Security Council resolutions and worsened the situation in the occupied territories, which it said had not improved since December 1987, the start of the 13-month-old Palestinian uprising. "Japan is seriously concerned about this measure in that it goes against the recent trend toward peace, including the initiation of dialogue between the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organisation," it said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الرابي.

Libya: No chemical arms planned

NEW YORK (AP) — Libya's foreign minister said Sunday his country had no plans to manufacture chemical weapons, but "you will never know" whether that will change. "We have never had a plan to develop chemical weapons," Foreign Minister Jadalla Azouzi Etalhi said on "Face the Nation," a news programme on the CBS television network. Pressed by interviewer Lesley Stahl, he said: "We have no plan for the time being." Asked if Libya planned to make such arms in the future, he replied: "You will never know." Washington claims a plant in Rabta, 96 kilometres southwest of Tripoli, is a poison gas facility, which some U.S. officials say already underwent a trial run and is on the verge of production. Libya says the plant will be for manufacturing medicine when it comes on line. Etalhi, speaking from Paris outside a 145-nation chemical weapons conference, said outsiders would be invited to inspect the facility when it opens in several months.

Volume 14 Number 3980

AMMAN MONDAY JANUARY 9, 1989. JUMADA AL AWWAL 30, 1409

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

AROUND THE WORLD...

Saudi crown prince arrives in Morocco

CASABLANCA (R) — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz arrived in Morocco Saturday for a private visit, the Moroccan news agency MAP reported. The prince's visit followed two days of talks in Syria focusing on the readmission of Egypt into the Arab League and Syrian ties to Morocco. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad broke relations with Morocco in July 1986 in protest at a visit by the then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Britain tells Iran hostages must go free

LONDON (R) — Britain told Iran Sunday that their relations would not improve until three British hostages held in Lebanon were freed. Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave made the point on British radio ahead of talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Terry Waite, teacher Brian Keenan and journalist John McCarthy, who are anyone several Westerners held in Lebanon. "We are not seeing so much movement on the hostages where we still do believe the Iranians have some influence," Waldegrave said.

Howe in Sanaa for first visit by British minister

SANAA (R) — Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe held talks in Sanaa Sunday with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani after arriving in North Yemen for the first visit by a British cabinet minister. Howe will spend two days discussing bilateral and regional issues and is expected to be pressed for further British aid to North Yemen. Britain and North Yemen have had limited diplomatic and commercial ties since North Yemen became a republic in the 1960s. British aid has totalled only £30 million (\$53 million) since 1971.

Sudan says food shortage over

NICOSIA (R) — Sudan now has enough food following years of intermittent famine but faces plots against it by Israel and other countries, Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem was quoted Sunday as saying. The Qatari News Agency quoted Dayem as telling Qatar's Al Arab newspaper that the amount of cultivated land in Sudan had risen, agricultural output was up and no one in the country was hungry. The agency quoted Dayem as saying Israel and other unnamed countries and groups were plotting to undermine Sudan's Arab and Muslim identity. It gave no details.

Abdul Meguid meets Arens in Paris

PARIS (R) — Israel's new foreign minister, Moshe Arens, met his Egyptian counterpart, Esmet Abdul Meguid, Sunday for the first time since taking office last month and the two agreed to continue contacts. "It was a friendly meeting," Abdul Meguid said. "We discussed bilateral relations and the peace process," he added but he also spoke of "differences" between the two sides. The one-hour encounter took place on the sidelines of a 140-nation conference in Paris on banning chemical warfare. Abdul Meguid said there could be further talks later during the five-day conference, which ends Wednesday, or afterwards.

Swedish premier to meet Peres

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson will meet Israel's deputy prime minister, Shimon Peres in Bonn at the end of this month to discuss Middle East peace efforts, the Foreign Ministry said Sunday. Foreign Minister Sten Andersson had also invited Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to Sweden, the ministry said. Both meetings were part of Sweden's efforts to contribute to the peace process between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the ministry said.

QAU president arrives in Morocco

MARRAKESH, Morocco (R) — Malian President Moussa Traore, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), arrived in Morocco Sunday for a state visit expected to focus on the Western Sahara conflict. The Moroccan news agency MAP reported King Hassan, who quit the OAU in 1984 after it admitted Polisario Front guerrillas fighting for independence for the former Spanish colony, greeted Traore at the airport.

SPA urges Lebanon to trace killers

LONDON (R) — Lebanese authorities should track down those responsible for a string of attacks on Saudi diplomats and bring them to justice, a Saudi official said in remarks published Sunday. In an interview in the Saudi-owned Asharq Al Awsat newspaper, published in London, the diplomatic editor of the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) referred to statements by organisations claiming to be behind the attacks. "If these people, who under false names took responsibility for the killing of Saudi diplomats, are too cowardly to take off the masks they hide behind, then it is Saudi Arabia's right to have Lebanon... uncover the killers and present them to justice and execution," said the editor.

Moscow welcomes Kampuchean move

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union welcomed Saturday the announcement by Phnom Penh that Vietnamese troops would be withdrawn from Kampuchea by September if an end was negotiated to the 10-year guerrilla war. "The Soviet Union welcomes and fully supports the new important move of Kampuchea and Vietnam, which accords with the leading trend in the modern world development of solving regional conflicts politically," a Soviet Foreign Ministry statement said. The statement said the announcement Friday by the Kampuchean Communist Party chief Heng Samrin, "opens the possibility of eliminating the seat of regional tension this very year... such a chance must not be lost."

Bild: IRA behind Pan Am bombing

HAMBURG (AP) — A newspaper has said the bomb that destroyed Pan Am Flight 103 was planted by an Irish Republican Army (IRA) member who boarded the airplane in Frankfurt. The Hamburg-based Bild Am Sonntag newspaper said Sunday British investigators "are convinced that an IRA terrorist brought the device on board the plane." The newspaper did not cite sources for its information and gave no indication as to a possible motive the IRA had in the bombing. A spokesman for the British Department of Transport, which is in charge of the investigation into the Pan Am crash, said he knew nothing about the Bild report and said he believes it is conjecture.

Moscow upgrades status of Israeli mission

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Soviet Union decided to upgrade the status of the Israeli consular mission in Moscow and view it as an "address for political activities," Israel's foreign minister said Sunday. Moshe Arens spoke shortly after hearing about the decision from his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze during a meeting of the two ministers in Paris Saturday. Speaking in a telephone interview with Israel army radio, Arens said Shevardnadze reiterated the Soviet appreciation of the Israeli rescue and medical aid provided to the victims of the earthquake in Armenia in December, and Israel's handling of the last month's plane hijacking affair.



Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman, flanked by advisor Bassam Abu Sharif (right) and spokesman Ahmad Abdul Rahman, addresses a press conference in Amman Sunday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Uprising leaders condemn killing

QUBAYBAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising Sunday condemned the killing of a West Bank village leader by masked youths as Palestinians staged a general strike and widespread clashes with the Israeli army. In Qubaybah village northwest of Jerusalem, hundreds of villagers chanted "we will sacrifice our blood and our souls for the martyr" as the body of the stabbing victim was carried to the grave.

Neighbours said Mahmoud Abdullah Hamoudeh was attacked in the street after about 15 Palestinians stoned his house on Friday night. The Israeli prosecutor for the Ramallah district said it was the result of a family dispute over water and roads. Police were holding seven suspects from another family in the village, two of whom had confessed to the killing.

A leaflet signed by Jerusalem-area leaders of the uprising, and authenticated by several sources, declared: "Enemies of the Palestinian people have murdered one of their national figures, Mahmoud Abdullah Hamoudeh. The unified leadership denounces this action." Hospitals reported Israeli troops shot and wounded seven Palestinians in the Khan Younis area of the Gaza Strip, three in the Jenin area, two in Tulkarm, two in refugee camps near Nablus and two in Beit Ummar near Hebron.

In Jenin, Palestinians hurled petrol bombs to set fire to a Bank Leumi branch in the latest of a spate of attacks intended to drive Israeli banks out of the occupied territories. Meanwhile, a preliminary police report released Sunday indicated an Israeli taxi driver slain

(Continued on page 2)

Libya orders out Western journalists

ROME (Agencies) — Libya Sunday ended a visit by scores of Western journalists who were taken on inspection tour of the factory at the centre of the U.S.-Libyan chemical arms row.

About two-thirds of the 180 journalists who arrived in Tripoli after U.S. navy jets fighters shot down two Libyan MiGs Wednesday left on an Alitalia flight to Rome after officials made clear they were no longer welcome.

The remainder were expected to leave Sunday night or early Monday.

Repeated announcements over the public address system in Tripoli's Al Kabir hotel Sunday told journalists to board coaches for the airport immediately after breakfast.

Those who failed to answer the summons were telephoned repeatedly in their rooms and urged to cooperate.

Asked for an explanation, a Foreign Ministry official told Reuters: "The journalists' programme is over. You must leave now. This is an order."

Soviet promise

In Paris, Secretary of State George Shultz said Sunday he had won a promise from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to look into the U.S. allegations that Libya is developing chemical weapons.

Shultz outlined the U.S. case briefly and offered a description of the plant to Shevardnadze during a meeting held outside a 150-nation conference on chemical weapons.

Based on this "general flow of evidence," Shultz said, Shevardnadze pledged the Soviets would make their own inquiry. "Since he cares about the sub-

U.S. has 'moral, political and historical' obligations

Arafat calls on Bush to pressure Israel for peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Sunday called on the incoming U.S. administration to fulfil its "moral, political and historical" obligations towards settling the Palestinian problem by exerting pressure on Israel.

"We hope that the new administration (of U.S. President-elect George Bush) will use its influence to convince Israel (to make peace)," Arafat told a press conference on the third day of his current trip to Amman. "It is a moral, historical and political responsibility of the U.S."

Arafat said the unlimited U.S. support for Israel had encouraged the Zionist state's leaders to take a rejectionist stand towards peace. "They have completely spoiled their naughty baby," he said, recalling that the late U.S. President Eisenhower had managed in 1956 to impose peace not only on Israel but on the then (former) superpowers Britain and

France during the Suez crisis.

The PLO chairman said a Camp David-style settlement of the Palestinian issue was outdated. He chided Israeli leaders for living in "prehistoric" ages thinking that a solution circumventing the Palestinian demand for an independent state could work.

"I am not responsible for the sick dreams of (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir and (Foreign Minister Moshe) Arens," Arafat said. "They are talking in pre-20th century, prehistoric terms unrelated to this century's political developments."

Arafat said Israel's leaders had

addressed the conference Saturday.

But he strongly endorsed a proposal to give the United Nations wider power to investigate suspected use of chemical weapons and to punish offenders.

A senior U.S. official in Paris denied his delegation was surprised by Shevardnadze's announcement and contended that Washington was way ahead of Moscow in plans to destroy chemical weapons safely.

Shevardnadze said the decision to start destroying stocks was an integral part of his country's perestroika reform programme. "Can we now refuse to apply the same degree of openness to the entire area of chemical weapons production which, just as pathological secretiveness, is part of the legacy of the past?" he asked.

Arab delegates at the conference are warning the big powers that chemical weapons, dubbed "the poor man's atom

bomb," cannot be eradicated without parallel moves to end nuclear proliferation.

Early signs of the Arab position came in a statement from the Arab League Saturday. "The 22 Arab (League) foreign ministers do not intend to dissociate chemical weapons from nuclear weapons," it said.

The ministers met late Saturday to coordinate their position. A foretaste of the position likely to be stressed by ministers from Egypt, Morocco, Iraq, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Oman was given by Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Al Sheikh.

"We must recognise that there is a link between chemical arms and nuclear arms, and take effective action to eliminate these two scourges," he said.

"Israel, the world's sixth nuclear power, commands an arsenal of nuclear, conventional and chemical arms which allows it to pursue a policy of aggression."

Arabs demand chemical ban be linked to nuclear

PARIS (AP) — Arab states demanded Sunday that a chemical weapons ban be linked to nuclear disarmament — which some Arab delegates called essential because of Israel — at an international meeting here.

Iraqi Vice-Premier Tariq Aziz, addressing about 80 foreign ministers among the delegations, accused Israel of keeping "nuclear weapons as well as chemical weapons and missiles that can reach many Arab cities including cities in Iraq."

Israel, he said, poses "a serious threat to the security of Arab states."

to know, as polls indicate, that 54 per cent of Israelis want peace and favour dialogue with the PLO.

The PLO leader, who along with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday inaugurated the Palestinian embassy in Amman, said his two rounds of talks with His Majesty King Hussein were "important, constructive, and positive" and conducted in a relaxed atmosphere.

The talks, he said, focused on resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council in Algiers Nov. 15, the ongoing PLO-U.S. dialogue and the common Jordanian, Palestinian and Arab efforts towards peace in the Middle East.

Arafat said the King also discussed with him the importance of Arab solidarity and the necessity of convening an Arab summit as soon as possible.

He thanked Jordan for upgrading the status of its mission in Amman to that of embassy.

Replying to a question on a possible truce in the Palestinian uprising suggested by Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, Arafat said, "brother Elias Freij has retreated" on the proposal because

"he realised the Israelis have no intention to take a step forward for peace in the Middle East."

Arafat said the bombing of a Pan American plane last month was aimed at undermining Middle East peace efforts. But he stopped short of pinning blame on any specific party.

"We consider that the crime of bombing the Pan American (plane) is one of these efforts to abort the peace efforts," Arafat said.

"I don't have information that allows me to accuse anybody, because the thing is still under investigation," he said.

On other issues, Arafat said: "Four consecutive sessions of the PNC had stressed that the future of relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples should be based on a confederation and that the PLO was committed to the PNC decisions."

— The PLO had found a "positive response" from King Hussein on that issue, but the two sides had not gone into the details of the subject.

(Continued on page 2)

Thousands pay last respects to Hirohito

TOKYO (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of people streamed to the Imperial Palace in a drizzling rain Sunday to pay respects to Emperor Hirohito as the government announced funeral plans for the late monarch.

Palace officials said 438,376 people braved Tokyo's first rainfall in 40 days to pray and sign condolence registries at the palace. Police said the registries had to be kept open an extra 2½ hours in the evening because of the large crowds.

Hirohito, 87, died Saturday of intestinal cancer after a 62-year reign that spanned Japan's descent into militarism, defeat in World War II and its astonishing recovery into an economic superpower.

Palace doctors said Hirohito died without being told he had cancer. In a statement following the emperor's death, chief physician Akira Takagi said doctors knew he had cancer in his upper intestinal area in September 1987, but "for various reasons" did not announce it. It is customary in Japan not to tell cancer victims they have the disease.

Sunday officially marked the first day of the new Japanese era, named Heisei, or "achieving peace." Under Japanese law, each emperor's reign is given a name which is used in dates instead of the more common international system.

Thus, in one of the first visible signs of the new era, Sunday's newspapers bore the date Jan. 8, Heisei Gannen — the first year of Heisei.

Hirohito's body wrapped in a white cloth, was placed in a coffin Sunday in Fushimi Palace, his home in the Imperial Palace grounds in central Tokyo. His body will be moved to two other locations on the palace grounds for special rites during the weeks before the state funeral.

The cabinet Sunday scheduled Hirohito's funeral for Feb. 24. Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita was selected as chairman of a special committee to oversee preparations for the funeral, Keizo Obuchi, chief government spokesman, told a press conference.

Some opposition groups have warned that government sponsorship of funeral ceremonies, closely linked to the Shinto religion, could violate the constitutional separation of religion and state.

Hirohito is the first emperor to die under Japan's post-war constitution. Until he renounced his divinity after World War II, emperors were considered living Shinto gods.

More than 60 funeral and transition rites, some simple and some complex, are expected in the coming months. The coronation of new emperor Akihito,

(Continued on page 2)

Hizbollah gains ground in S. Lebanon fighting

SIDON (AP) — Fighters of Hizbollah (Party of God) wrested five key villages from the Amal militia in a dawn offensive in South Lebanon Sunday.

At least four combatants were killed and 50 people were wounded in house to house fighting in the villages of Kfar Hata, Kfar Melki, Kfar Beit, Kfar Filla and Jbaa in the Iqlim Al Tufah, police reported.

This raises to 37 dead and 144 wounded the overall casualties since New Year's eve when the fresh outbreak of fighting between the Hizbollah and Amal erupted in Beirut and South Lebanon.

Mohammad Hammoud, Amal's top commander in Iqlim Al Tufah, and his brother Ahmad, were among those killed Sunday. Police said they died in their beds when the Hammoud residence in Kfar Melki was attacked with grenades.

Six rescuers — three from Lebanon's Red Cross and three from the civil defence department — plus a policeman were wounded by crossfire.

Hospitals sources in Sidon, the provincial capital of South Lebanon, said they believed the casualty toll was higher than the police figures.

"Emergency wards in three Sidon hospitals and two others in nearby towns are overflowing with casualties," said a hospital spokesman in Sidon, who requested anonymity. "We are sending serious cases to Beirut," he added.

Police said the attack was mounted by hundreds of masked Hizbollahis who captured the five

villages within four hours after the dawn attack.

The five villages stretch along 10 kilometres of the main road through the province from Sidon. Their seizure has given Hizbollah a stranglehold on the province that stretches from Sidon's southern outskirts to the northern fringe of Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon, said a police spokesman.

The way is now open for them to attack the market town of Nabatiyeh, the biggest urban centre held by Amal just north of the "security zone," added the spokesman.

"If Nabatiyeh falls to Hizbollah, the fundamentalists will be in control of most of South Lebanon's inland territory," he added.

"They will be able to link the south to their main stronghold in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and trap Amal fighters along their backs to the sea," the spokesman said.

Amal said in a statement that Hizbollah has brought in hundreds of fighters from the Bekaa to stage Sunday's attack. It added that Amal reinforcements were sent from the southern port of Tyre to mount a counter-attack.

The two factions have long been vying for control of the one million Shi'ites who make up the largest single sect among Lebanon's four million inhabitants.

The Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) offered to deploy its fighters to separate the warring groups.

The PLO, which maintains ties with Hizbollah, concluded a peace pact with Amal last month to end their years of warfare for control of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon.

"PLO forces are ready to deploy to stop the current bloodshed," said the PLO representative in Sidon, Zaid Wahbeh.

"I appeal to brethren in Amal and Hizbollah to respond to this initiative, especially since the Israeli enemy is preparing a large-scale aggression on South Lebanon," Wahbeh added.

There was no response from either side to his plea.

Sunday's assault marked a major Hizbollah comeback since Amal evicted the fundamentalists from South Lebanon in a four-day crackdown last April, in fierce fighting that left 62 dead and 150 wounded.

Hizbollah retaliated in May, driving Amal out of most of Beirut's Shi'ite-populated southern slums in a three-week bloodbath in which 286 people were killed and nearly 1,000 wounded.

Syria sent 4,500 troops into the slums to stop the fighting on May 21, 1988.

But Amal and Hizbollah clashed again in November in six days of street battles in the slums, as well as in residential districts of west Beirut that left 40 people dead and 87 wounded.

The current round of fighting broke out in Beirut's southern slums Dec. 31 and spread to South Lebanon a day later.

Arab newspapers accuse U.S. of hypocrisy

NICOSIA (R) — Arab newspapers Sunday accused the United States of hypocrisy for criticising Libya over chemical weapons while it and its allies possessed their own.

"To put Libya in the spotlight...while Israel owns not only gas factories but also reactors producing nuclear bombs which damages (America's) credibility," said Qatar's weekly Akhbar Al Usbu magazine.

Israel does not acknowledge having either chemical or nuclear arms but says it would not be the first to introduce them

into the Middle East.

"We...do not belittle the danger of chemical, nuclear or other weapons and realise the threat their possession entails, but this does not need to blind us to the other side of the issue," the Qatari magazine said.

Saudi Arabia's Al Riyadh newspaper praised an international conference in Paris called to try to enforce a ban on the use of chemical weapons.

"But these products cannot be controlled as long as the strongest nations are not bound by compulsory laws," it said. The United States says Libya

is building a chemical weapons plant and has not ruled out military action against it. Libya says the plant will make only medicines.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Aam said it hoped the international community would agree in principle to destroy chemical weapons, not merely ban their use.

"It is not acceptable that the United States threaten... (Libyan leader) Colonel (Muammar) Qadhafi and make the security and sovereignty of an independent Arab state a military target while it deals with a silk glove with its (own) chemi-

cal factories and those of its European allies," the paper said.

"The Paris conference on chemical weapons must be turned into a trial of those who would make themselves guardians of small nations and act in a way showing foolishness and superiority."

Qatar's English-language daily Gulf Times called for a ban on production of chemical weapons in all countries and for an international monitoring system to enforce it.

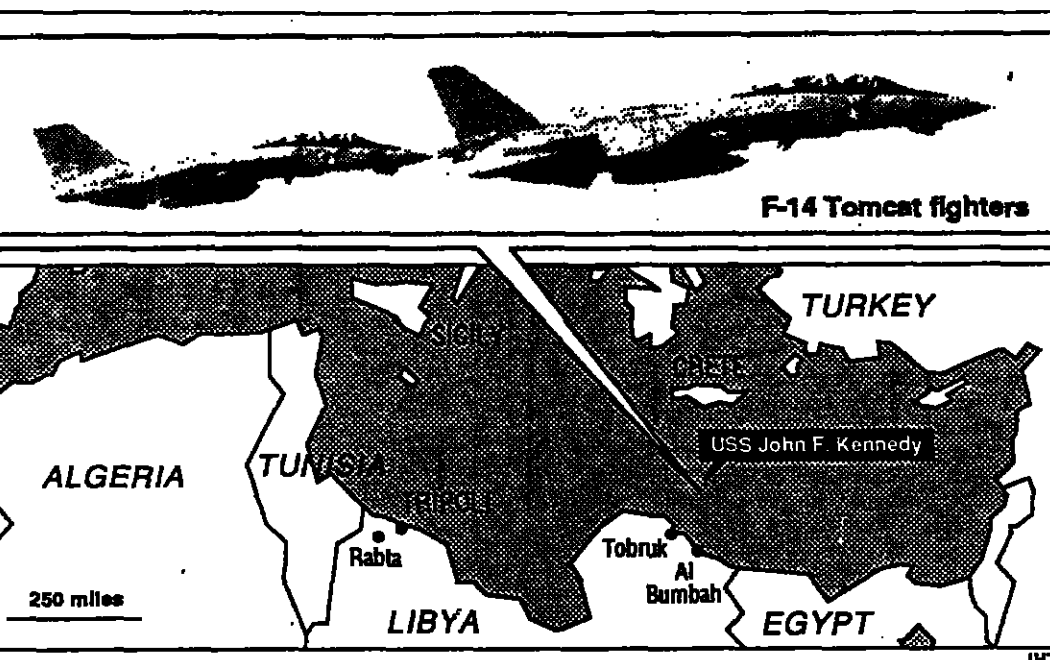
"Pulling the danger up by the roots isn't accomplished by military strikes or by prevent-

ing one or several countries in particular from owning the weapons," it said.

In the United Arab Emirates, Dubai's Al Bayan newspaper said the United States had the loudest voice at the conference.

"No one defends terrorism... (but) America escapes from the charge of practising official terror against an entire country," Al Bayan said.

Abu Dhabi's Al Fajr newspaper said: "The United States manufactured the problem of the Libyan medicines factory as part of a wide campaign to accuse the Arabs of terrorism."



Libyans take journalists on drive-through trip to Rabta

RABTA, Libya (Agencies) — Libya has taken foreign journalists on tour of a plant the U.S. government claims is preparing to produce chemical weapons, but the drive-through visit took place on a moonless night in a non-stop bus.

Thousands of civilians, including women and children, were camped near the plant Saturday night to protect it from a U.S. attack, Libyan officials said.

Soldiers, tanks and surface-to-air missiles guarded the site 96 kilometres southwest of the capital of Tripoli. Children in the village of Rabta shook their fists and chanted anti-U.S. slogans at Western television cameras.

The mysterious factory has been at the centre of a conflict between Libya and Washington that has threatened to escalate into military action. Fears of a U.S. attack were heightened Wednesday when U.S. warplanes shot down two Libyan fighters over the Mediterranean about 110 kilometres off Libya.

The government had promised the three busloads of reporters a tour of "Pharma 150," which it says will make medicine when the plant is completed.

However, officials refused to allow journalists out of the buses and into the building and did not drive close to the buildings until after nightfall Saturday. The buses came about 20 metres from the unit plant buildings and did not stop.

A short distance away, a radar station operated high atop a barren ridge overlooking the highway and two surface-to-air missile sites.

Some tanks and an encampment of soldiers could be seen nearby.

One unidentified Libyan official said the radar, soldiers and defence batteries were put in place after U.S. President Ronald Reagan said last month that the United States was considering military action to destroy the plant.

Ali Ibrahim, the man identified as manager of the factory, said it was a pharmaceutical plant and said no foreign contractors were involved. The Reagan administration has alleged that a West German company and other foreign firms helped build the complex. West Germany has denied the allegations.

One Libyan official said fore-

igners could not have an inside tour because well-known companies had been involved in the factory's construction and the firms did not want to be subject to sanctions.

The visit to the plant appeared designed to give reporters a chance to see the crowds that Libyan officials said were gathered along the road to protect the factory.

In a lamp-lit tent some 400 metres from the main buildings, people were sitting on the floor, chanting and waving their clenched fists.

One secondary school student said he had come with 150 classmates in buses to Rabta.

Chemistry teacher Taher Mansour said he came to Rabta most nights. "Why doesn't the United States want us to develop? Why do they pick on us?" he said.

A large number of cars and vans were parked along the road, along with at least a dozen empty buses.

"We're standing up to

Reagan's call to attack," said Ahmad Mohammad, an agricultural ministry employee from Tripoli, who said he was staying in the camp.

Arens presses campaign against U.S.-PLO dialogue

PARIS (Agencies) — The Israeli government told U.S. officials Sunday that the "substantive dialogue" the United States is conducting with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is likely to encourage "violence."

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, at a breakfast meeting in Paris with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, registered his country's disapproval of the sharp shift in U.S. policy towards PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the organisation.

"Israel feels that contacts with the PLO, granting any kind of legitimacy to the PLO, cannot possibly further the peace process," Arens told reporters after the meeting. "If anything, it will encourage further acts of terrorism and

violence."

It was the first high-level U.S.-Israeli meeting since the U.S. decision to open talks with the PLO. It also was Arens' first meeting with U.S. officials since he was appointed foreign minister of Israel's new coalition government.

He and Shultz are attending a conference in Paris aimed at banning the use of chemical weapons.

Shultz approved the U.S. decision to end a 13-year ban on formal talks with the PLO after Arafat issued a statement — suggested by the U.S. State Department — saying he renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist.

Since then, U.S. diplomats



Moshe Arens

have held two meetings with the PLO and accepted Arafat's offer of help in finding those responsible for the sabotage of a Pan Am jetliner that blew up over Scotland Dec. 21, killing 270 people.

U.S.-Libya row casts cloud on Tunis talks

BEIRUT (R) — Arab League ministers meeting in Tunis this week to find solutions to the Lebanese crisis are unlikely to make progress, political sources said Sunday.

"The meeting of foreign ministers in Tunis is bound to be taken up more with the Libyan incident than Lebanon's troubles," said one source in west Beirut.

Arab countries have bitterly criticised the United States for shooting down two Libyan MiGs four days ago in what Tripoli said was a prelude to a full-scale attack. Washington said its pilots acted in self-defence.

"We doubt the meeting will contribute to solving the crisis," said a Lebanese politician. "Regional struggles will torpedo any chances of Arab League help to end the problem."

Lebanon has two governments — a military administration headed by army commander Michel Aoun and a civilian cabinet.

Lebanon's rival administrations have each sent messages to the Arab League, each adopting a very different approach to the country's awesome problems.

Lebanon's ambassador to the Arab League, Suleiman Farah, will represent his country at Wednesday's talks.

Official sources said Aoun had asked Farah to return to Lebanon for consultations ahead of the meeting, but Farah had told Beirut he was ill and unable to travel.

Political sources said Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz held talks in Damascus last week in an attempt to persuade Syria to help forge an Arab consensus on Lebanon.

"It is not yet clear whether any agreement was reached," said a source.

Syria has about 25,000 troops in Lebanon. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad visited Saudi Arabia last month.

Arab summit to discuss Egypt's return to league

ABU DHABI (R) — Arab leaders will consider readmitting Egypt to the Arab League at a summit in Saudi Arabia, a league official was reported Sunday as saying.

Al Itihad newspaper quoted Assistant Secretary-General Adnan Omran as saying: "Egypt's return to the Arab League is an important issue on the summit agenda because it is part of efforts to restore Arab solidarity."

The summit would be held soon but no date has been fixed, Omran said in an interview at the league's headquarters in Tunis.

Egypt was suspended from the Arab League in 1979 after its treaty with Israel and most Arab states broke relations. All except Syria, Libya and Lebanon have since restored them.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah

Ibn Abdul Aziz Saturday discussed possible readmission of Egypt to the league with Syrian officials in Damascus.

Security of Arab states and endorsement of a new Arab League charter would also be discussed at the summit, Al Itihad quoted Omran as saying. The charter would be a "turning point in the league's actions," he said without elaborating.

Omran also urged Arab states to enforce a joint defence charter to defend Libya from the United States after U.S. planes last week shot down two Libyan jets over the Mediterranean.

It is time that we shake the dust from the defence charter and pool all our potential to respond to an American aggression against Libya," he said. Most Arab states have condemned the U.S. action.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

'France to sell planes to Libya'

LONDON (AP) — A U.S. official has said France is negotiating a secret deal to sell jet fighters to Libya. The Sunday Telegraph newspaper reported Sunday. The respected weekly said the senior official, whom the report did not name, said information of the deal to sell Mirage jet fighters was compiled with the help of European intelligence agencies. He did not name the intelligence agencies but described the information as "hard," the newspaper said.

3 Israelis beat up, kidnap Arab

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Police arrested three Israelis who kidnapped and beat up a Palestinian Saturday because they objected to his romance with a Jewish woman, the Itim news agency said. The assailants, two men and a woman, burst into the couple's apartment in a Tel Aviv suburb Saturday morning and started beating the Palestinian man, Itim said. The Jewish woman who was romantically involved with the Arab was a relative of the attackers, the news agency said. Itim did not name any of the parties in the incident. Shortly after the assailants broke in, the young woman escaped and managed to alert a policeman, who gave chase after the assailants' car, Itim said. When the policeman caught up with the retreating vehicle, he found the Palestinian man, aged 29, trapped in the trunk. Police took the beating victim to hospital in Tel Aviv.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Arafat urges Bush to pressure Israel



Yasser Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

— The creation of a Palestinian provisional government was still under study by the PLO Executive Committee and the committee was assuming the responsibility of such a government until one is formed.

The provisional government will be made up of Palestinian personalities inside and outside the occupied territories in addition to some Palestinian personalities in Lebanon.

— The PLO has received a request from Netouri Carta, an orthodox Jewish sect whose members believe the creation of the state of Israel is a violation of

Jewish laws, to have their own representative in the Palestinian government.

"I am sympathetic to this subject, but the decision will have to be a collective one."

— The PLO has information that Israel had drawn up a "war scenario" targeted against Palestinian presence in Tyre and Sidon in South Lebanon.

Arafat voiced satisfaction over an agreement reached between the PLO and the Amal militia in South Lebanon and called Amal and its rival Hizbollah to settle their differences quickly. He offered the PLO's good offices towards that end. "I call on Amal and Hizbollah to resolve their differences so that all of us can confront the coming Israeli aggression," he said. "We in the PLO are ready to provide any help in ending the conflict between Amal and Hizbollah."

Arafat left Amman later Sunday. He was seen off Prime Minister Rifai, cabinet members and senior Jordanian and PLO officials.

Palestinian sources said Arafat had received an official invitation from Cypriot President George Vassiliou to pay a state visit to Cyprus, which has extended full recognition to the newly proclaimed Palestinian state. The sources said Arafat accepted the invitation and the visit would be made on a date to be decided later.

Kuwait announced Sunday it is upgrading the PLO office and will donate land and a building for an embassy of the State of Palestine, the AP reported.

The acting minister of state for cabinet affairs, Nasser Al Rouдан, said the plot and construction costs would be "a gift from the people of Kuwait to the brother people of Palestine on the occasion of the establishment of their state."

Arafat already has hoisted the Palestinian flag over the embassies in Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Amman, and laid foundation stones for new premises to go up in Baghdad and Abu Dhabi.

Last respects to Hirohito

(Continued from page 1)

Hirohito's son, will be delayed until the end of a one-year mourning period, although he automatically became emperor the moment Hirohito died.

On Monday, in one of his first acts as emperor, Akihito is to conduct the "sokuigo-chokon-no-gi," his first official audience with representatives of the three branches of government and other prominent citizens.

Suicides

A second devotee of Hirohito has hanged himself, saying he wanted to follow his monarch into the afterlife, police said.

Uprising leaders condemn killing

(Continued from page 1)

last Thursday in the West Bank was killed by Palestinian nationalists, Israel Radio said. His death raises to 15 the number of Israelis killed in the uprising.

Shmuel Edri, 42, was shot twice in the chest near the Jewish settlement of Yakir, 40 kilometres north of Jerusalem. Police found footprints of two people leading from the car to the village of Bani Hassan, the radio said.

The army ordered five Gaza

refugee camps placed under curfew because of Sunday's strike, confining at least 150,000 Palestinians to their homes indefinitely.

The strike and curfews kept tens of thousands of Palestinians from going to jobs in Israel.

The strike, which stopped public transportation and closed all businesses and schools, was called by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising.

Hamas, the Islamic fundamentalist organisation, has called a strike for Monday.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:45	Programme review
15:55	Children's programmes
16:00	News summary in Arabic
16:05	World News
16:20	Arabic series
16:35	Local programme
16:40	Programme review
16:50	News in Arabic
17:00	Arabic series
17:15	Programme review
17:30	Monday Forum
17:45	Variety show
18:00	News summary in Arabic
18:10	Variety show (cont.)
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Le Monde en A Vous
17:45	News in French
18:00	Weekly Sports magazine
18:15	News in Hebrew
18:30	Variety show
18:45	News in Arabic

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	21:00	So you want stop smoking
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261	21:10	Jack and Mike
St. Epiphanius Church Tel. 771751	22:00	News in English
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326	22:30	Jewel in the Crown
PRAYER TIMES		
65:11	Fajr	
06:32	(Sunrise) Duha	
11:42	Dhuhr	
14:29	'Asr	
16:52	Maghrib	
18:14	'Isha	
CHURCHES		
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785		
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590		
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440		
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757		
Terranova Church Tel. 623666		
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541		
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543		

In Aqaba, there will be a chance for scattered showers. Winds will be northerly moderate, becoming southerly fresh and seas wary.	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
The country is currently affected by a depression, centred south of Turkey. So clouds at low altitudes increase gradually in the evening, and there will be rain in the northern and central regions extending gradually to other regions. A gradual drop in temperature is expected. Winds will be south-westerly, freshening at times.	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Waleed Al Masri	675485
Dr. Isam Hawandeh	624830
Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmed	744685
Dr. Abdul Qader Al Lal	896046
Pinus pharmacy	661912

Ferdous pharmacy	778336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636780
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shamsoun pharmacy	637668
EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Directorate	661111
Civil Defence immediate	630341
Rescue	199
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 631111, 637777
Fire Brigade	198, 891228
Blood Bank	778303
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	639141
Public Security Directorate	656000 / 685111

Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	897467
Complaints	787111
Amman Municipality	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	12
Overseas Calls	17
Repairs	623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power	648411, 636381
RJ Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-52000
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Museen Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn	643441/2

Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mallat, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisan	664171/4
Shmeisan Hospital	669131
University Hospital	645845
Al-Mushter Hospital	667279

Rifai visits embassy, condoles Japanese envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday called at the Japanese embassy here and presented his condolences and that of the Jordanian government to Ambassador Makoto Watanabe on the death of Emperor Hirohito.

Rifai expressed his deep grief over the loss of the great leader who, he said, stood out as a symbol for Japan's modern prosperity and great achievements.

He said that the late emperor had played a key role in bolstering Jordanian-Japanese ties.

The prime minister later signed a register for condolences opened by the embassy on this occasion.

The Royal Court Saturday expressed deep grief and sadness over the death of the emperor and announced a three-day mourning period.

His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of condolence to Japan's new Emperor Akihito in which he expressed his sadness at the loss of the late emperor.

Chief of the Royal Court Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and His Majesty King Hussein's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh also visited the Japanese embassy Sunday afternoon and presented their condolences on the death of the late emperor and signed the condolences register.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday signs the condolences register at the Japanese embassy in Amman during a visit to convey his condolences and that of his government on the death of Emperor Hirohito (Petra photo)

Ministry completes study on poverty

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Social Development has completed a comprehensive study on pockets of poverty in Jordan, and it will publish and distribute copies of the study to all concerned private and public organisations by the end of the coming month, according to an announcement here Sunday.

The announcement said that the study was attached to a report by a technical committee which conducted surveys extensively in different parts of the country to help define the line of poverty and the basic needs for individuals and families.

The ministry, the announcement said, will now translate these needs into financial figures with the help of a World Health Organisation (WHO) report on nutrition and basic needs of families in Jordan, as well as views of organisations that provide assistance to the needy.

In June 1987, the ministry announced that JD 70,000 were allocated for the comprehensive

study on poverty in the Kingdom, and that teams of specialists from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and a number of organisations were involved in the study.

In 1982, the Jordan Times published a study by Dr. Jarir Dajani, a professor of infrastructure in planning and management at Stanford University in California.

Dajani served for one year as lecturer at the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University during which he issued the study which revealed that 30 per cent of the population lived below the relative poverty line.

The study indicated that the poorest 30 per cent of the population earned 11.5 per cent of the total income earned in the country and that one fifth of all income was earned by the richest 6.2 per cent of the population.

The study also showed that those classified as living under the poverty line earned less than JD 100 a month.

Poultry meat prices not raised

By Suhair Obaidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Ministry of Supply has not decided to raise the prices of fresh poultry meat, but the subject of prices is still under study by a ministry committee, according to the head of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Supply, Abdel Hadi Al Hamayreh.

A shortage in white meat in the local market has been reported in the past few days. "The production of the government's slaughter house dropped on Thursday

from a daily average of 22,000 heads of chicken to 1,000," Hamayreh told the Jordan Times.

"The increasing demand on poultry meat was caused by the cut-off of imported fresh meat over the Christmas holidays," he explained. The ministry has a sufficient supply of poultry meat and it has already started providing the local market.

"After we resume importing fresh meat the shortage problem of poultry meat will be solved," Hamayreh reassured.

Meanwhile the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported from

Karak in southern Jordan that poultry farmers there held a meeting to discuss the poultry situation and the continuous rise in prices of fodder and other components used in the poultry industry.

The farmers underlined the importance of finding proper solutions so that the poultry industry can continue and flourish, Petra said.

Agriculture Ministry sources said that 103 poultry farms exist in the Karak Governorate, and altogether produce some five million birds annually and no less than 40 million table eggs.

Jordan has 597 literacy centres

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan now has 597 literacy and adult education centres which provide basic education to nearly 11,000 people, according to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi.

The Ministry of Education will pursue its efforts to open further centres and spread education in all rural urban and badia regions of the country, the minister said in a statement to mark the Arab Day for the Eradication of Illiteracy.

The Ministry of Education's drive to expand education to all regions has resulted in having one

third of the Jordanian population learning at schools and universities and community colleges. Hindawi said in a statement prior to his departure to Geneva.

The minister said that the rate of illiteracy in the Kingdom was falling rapidly and the Ministry of Education will pursue the drive to eradicate it completely.

The minister paid tribute to adults seeking education in the literacy centres and commended the teachers efforts for helping the country to rid itself of illiteracy.

Last year the Ministry of Education announced that 25 per

cent of the country's population were illiterate down from 67 per cent in 1961 and 34.6 per cent in 1979.

According to ministry officials Jordan embarked on adult education in 1953 when several evening classes were opened offering free education to those who missed the opportunity of learning when they were young.

It was not until 1965 when the Ministries of Education and Social Development joined forces to launch organised programmes to spread education among illiterates on a large scale.

Khatib inspects Karak projects

KARAK (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib Sunday visited Karak in southern Jordan and met with its Governor Hussein Al Shobaki to discuss energy-related affairs, and current projects.

Khatib said that the ministry was exerting all possible efforts through the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to supply power to all population settlements within the governorate.

The minister was briefed on

measures taken by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) to protect the Karak archaeological citadel and tourist sites from landslides.

Khatib said that a ministry technical team is currently conducting tours of areas that had been supplied with power to ensure that the power network were in safe and sound condition.

Teams from JEA are now involved in insulating cables in areas where snow continuously

falls, Khatib pointed out.

He said that NRA teams were conducting tests on samples of soil in Karak to ensure that it is fit for construction work.

The governor presented a report on the governorate's needs of power services and a team from the NRA reported on restoration work at the Karak Castle which is being done in cooperation with a Czechoslovak archaeological team.

Joint land transport company's assembly to meet in Baghdad

AMMAN (J.T.) — The general assembly of the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company (IJLTC) is due to open a meeting in Baghdad early next week under the co-chairmanship of Ministers of Transport and Telecommunications in the two countries.

The IJLTC Director General Jamil Ibrahim said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the meeting will review the company's achievements in the past year, chart plans for the 1989 operations and expansion programmes and the transporta-

tion of goods between Iraq and Jordan on the one hand and between the two countries and the rest of the Arab World on the other.

Ibrahim said the general assembly will look into the prospect of modernising the company's fleet over the coming few years, opening new offices outside Jordan and Iraq especially in Kuwait, Turkey and Singapore.

The development and modernisation of the company's Aqaba workshops to cope with the growing volume of work and

the increasing fleet of trucks, as well as an estimated budget for the new year will also be discussed at the meeting, Ibrahim noted.

According to Ibrahim the company last year made a JD 2 million in net profit.

The company's board of directors held a meeting in Amman last October and discussed reports on the company's operations following the addition of 150 new trucks to its fleet.

The company's 900-truck fleet transported 808,000 tonnes of Iraqi goods from Aqaba to Iraq in the first eight months of 1988 alone, according to Ibrahim.

In the past year 40 of the company's trucks were assigned to help transport Jordanian phosphate from Al Hassa and Al Abiad mines in the south of the country to Aqaba for export.

The company was established in 1980 with a JD 15 million capital.

Tabbaa, Omani ministers discuss trade cooperation

MUSCAT (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa met here Sunday with Omani Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy Qais Abdul Mun'em Al Zawawi to discuss scopes of economic and trade cooperation between Oman and Jordan.

Later Tabbaa met with the ministers of telecommunications and postal affairs to discuss transport and communications matters.

A meeting later with the Omani Chamber of Industry and Trade was devoted to discussing means to promote economic cooperation. Tabbaa is currently leading Jordan's team to a joint

Senate speaker receives U.S. delegation

Lawzi: Exchange of land for peace, Palestinian rights are key to peace

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan considers the Palestine problem as the crux of the Middle East conflict that has existed since 1948 and believes in a just and durable settlement based on the exchange of land for peace and the return of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and lands, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi said Sunday.

Lawzi spoke about Jordan's parliamentary rule since 1929 and the role of Jordanian parliamentarians in promoting the cause of peace.

Senator Bahjat Talhoumi spoke to the congressmen outlining the developments of the Palestine problem since 1948 and underlined the role of the United States in bringing about a just and durable peace to the Middle East.

"An international peace conference under U.N. auspices as advocated by Jordan remains the best and most proper means for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and solving the Palestine problem in a manner that would ensure peace and security for all countries in the region," Lawzi said at a meeting here with a three-member U.S. Congress team.

The Arab Nation's orientation towards peace, he said, came out clearly from the Fez Arab summit meeting held in 1982 calling for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 through an international peace conference that would see a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories including Arab Jerusalem.

Despite the positive Arab stand, Lawzi noted, Israel has maintained its intransigence and continued to hold on to the occupied lands, denying the Palestinian people their legitimate rights.

Referring to the Palestine National Council's recent declaration in Algiers, Lawzi said the declaration, coupled with Palestine Liberation Organisation's leader Yasser Arafat's speech before the U.N. General Assembly in Geneva, were sufficient to explain the Arab position and expose Israel's rejection of all peace bids.

Lawzi called on the congressmen to convey the truth about the situation in the Middle East to the American administration and the U.S. public opinion which can play an instrumental role in supporting peace efforts and in implementing U.N. resolutions.

The U.S. congressmen were received by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb at the Armed Forces Headquarters in Amman. They heard a briefing on the country's defence policies and discussed issues of common interest to Jordan and the U.S. Later Sunday the delegation left for Egypt.

Jordan, Egypt begin 2nd Arab strategic conference in Cairo

CAIRO (Petra) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Butros Ghali Sunday called for mobilising intellectual and political resources in the Arab World to prepare for the future and ensure a stronger position for the Arab citizen.

In a speech before the second Arab strategic conference, which was inaugurated by him on behalf of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Ghali said the change currently taking place in the world is the most dangerous change we have ever experienced since the end of World War II.

Ghali outlined the dangers of military science and technology on international community and the environment.

Bakht added that Jordan, through its active and distinguished role in the contemporary Arab movement since the beginning of this century, has won a special credibility on both the Arab and international scenes.

He added that the challenges facing the Arab World calls for preparation of a detailed plan of action and an executive programme, which provides for the undertaking of research and holding seminars.

President of Al Ahran centre also called for supporting com-

mon Arab work and stressed the need for formulating an integrated Arab strategy.

Taking part in the conference are a number of Jordanian, Egyptian and Arab specialists, and academics, including Public Security Director, General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, University of Mu'ta President Ali Mahafza, secretary general of the Council of Science and Technology and director of the University of Jordan's Strategic Studies Centre.

The Jordanian delegation to the meeting will present four working papers.

YARMOUK EXHIBITION: An exhibition on museums in West Germany was opened Saturday at Yarmouk University. The three-week exhibition includes photos depicting types of museums, style, and modern methods of displaying items in West Germany. (Petra)

PSD seeks those responsible in fatally shooting young man

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has appealed to the members of the public to help it discover persons responsible for the killing of 21-year-old Iyad Khaled Badawi with a stray bullet during a wedding ceremony.

Badawi was killed when unidentified persons opened fire in rejoicings during the wedding on Jan. 5, 1989, at Al Wahdat district of Amman.

Badawi was described as a student in the Jordan Nursing School who was at the home of Younes Abdul Rahman Mousa Al Najjar where the wedding was taking place at the time of the incident.

Police who were called to the scene of the incident discovered that the victim was hit with a nine millimetre bullet in the head causing his immediate death. A PSD spokesman said that investigations were continuing to find those who fired the bullet and the motives, if any, behind killing the young man.

Strict measures are being taken by the PSD upon government orders against those who fire weapons during weddings and other social events and ceremonies; and the PSD has repeatedly appealed to the public to refrain from firing on such occasions to avoid killing or injuring innocent citizens.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of works by Contemporary Arab Artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ The Iraqi Cultural Week which includes an exhibition by the Iraqi artist Salam Al Madameh and an exhibition of children's paintings and children's literary and cultural books, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "New Museum Buildings in the Federal Republic of Germany" at the Yarmouk University — 11:00 a.m.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Kamal, Samar Al Sabe' and Nibal Saleh at the Housing Bank Gallery.

BAZAAR

- ★ A charity bazaar that includes wooden handicrafts, embroideries, artificial flowers, children's toys and cultural books at Ala's Centre, Hittin Refugee Camp.

POETRY RECITAL

- ★ A poetry recital by the Jordanian poet Abdul Fattah Hyassat at the Jordanian Writers Federation — 5:30 p.m.

FILM

- ★ A video film entitled "Deutschlandspiegel" (The German Scene), in English, at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.



Hotel honours staff

The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in Amman honoured its staff of 330 in a traditional new year celebration held at the hotel Saturday. The management presented gifts and awards to the staff members and singled out Ms. Claudia Hanna and Mr. Sami Al Shami as ideal employees for the past year. Senior staff members traditionally served lunch to their juniors during the celebration which also included an entertainment programme. The hotel's General Manager Jubrall Khawam presents Claudia Hanna from the Public Relations Department with a meritorical certificate in recognition of her efforts in 1988. (J.T.)

Oxford Street Fashion

New Look Catalogue

كatalog اربيع وصيف 89

انظروا على النسخة الجديدة

PRICE

OGUE

ACT NOW! Send for your 600 page catalogue today.

Complete the coupon and send with JD 6 to: SCAR

P.O. Box 960549, AMMAN — JORDAN

Mr/Ms/Mr

Address

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

OR Telephone 605410

for further details

Jabal Al Hussein

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

جورديان تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Editorial Director:

RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:

DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation.

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

No more relics of past times

AND SO it came to pass Jan. 7, 1989, that Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat raised together the Jordanian and Palestinian flags side by side at the newly upgraded Palestinian embassy in Amman to the sound of applause from both Jordanians and Palestinians alike. And with that political gesture laden with emotions and high expectations the Jordanian-PLO relations reached a new juncture that crowned His Majesty King Hussein's talks with Chairman Arafat in Amman Saturday, during which His Majesty reaffirmed Jordan's full support to Mr. Arafat and to his speech to the United Nations General Assembly in Geneva last month, as well as to the resolutions of the Palestine National Council in Algiers on Nov. 15. His Majesty King Hussein summed up all when he said at the end of the second round of talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat Saturday: "We are very happy that responsibilities are in the able hands of the PLO leaders... we totally support my brother Abu Ammar (Arafat), our Palestinian brethren and the Palestinian cause with all our means and every way possible."

It is more than politically symbolic that the Jordanian and Palestinian flags were hoisted simultaneously Saturday on the occasion of the granting embassy status to the office of the PLO in Amman. There are no better words to describe the symbolism of the occasion than to quote the words of Chairman Arafat who said after the flag raising ceremony: "This means that the coordination and cooperation with our brothers, as we are one family, will increase..."

And the message to Israel and the rest of the world should be clear. Gone are the days when the quest for the resolution of the Palestinian conflict can be conducted in an isolation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Above all the Israeli leadership are invited to take political and juridical notice that it is high time to give up their illusions about by-passing the PLO in the Middle East peace process. The sooner they reconcile themselves to the new realities the better it will be for all parties concerned. The timing of the joint raising of the Jordanian and Palestinian flags at the Palestinian embassy in Amman is most opportune in view of the fact that the newly formed Israeli government is still entertaining false hopes that it can turn the political clock of the Middle East backward by contemplating so-called new initiatives on old ideas long regarded as the relics of past times.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i along with the other Arabic dailies Sunday commented on the establishment of a Palestine embassy in Amman with His Majesty King Hussein's blessings. The embassy here, the paper said, is an embodiment of the total coordination, unity of purpose and joint struggle of the Jordanian and Palestinian people. The King's directives to give backing to the Palestinians and the Jordanian government's facilities extended to the Palestine Liberation Organisation can only indicate the Kingdom's true orientation towards backing the endeavours of the Palestinian people in their relentless efforts to regain their rights and their homeland, the paper noted. It said that the very strong relations between the PLO and Jordan is a great source of satisfaction and pride for all Arabs in general and the Jordanian and Palestinian people in particular. The paper said the talks in Amman between PLO leader Yasser Arafat and King Hussein, described as excellent, reflect the determination by both sides to jointly confront the coming challenges for peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily called on the Arab states to unite in the face of the serious challenges by their common enemies and the current hardships confronted by the nation. Abdul Rahim Omar said that the Palestine National Council's decision to recognise U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and Washington's decision to open a dialogue with the PLO were good signs that the Palestine question is being directed towards the right peace track. These developments, he added, have been warmly welcomed not only by the Arab states but also by the international community which is now awaiting other constructive moves towards the establishment of peace. Therefore, the writer noted, the Arabs should take a concerted step towards paving the way for the convening of an international conference to establish peace in the Middle East and they can agree on such steps at an Arab summit conference where they can discuss chronic issues and measures with which to confront any eventualities. The Arab nation is going through a very sensitive stage requiring close coordination of stands with regards to the Gulf situation and calling for pressure to be exerted on Iran to exchange prisoners of war with Iraq and reach a lasting settlement with its Arab neighbour, the writer continued. He said that recent Iranian massing of troops along the border with Iraq, the U.S. naval forces off the Libyan shores and the continued occupation of Palestinian land should serve as a catalyst unifying the Arab countries' efforts in the face of the common danger.

Al Dustour daily came out with an editorial in which it lauded the fruitful cooperation between Jordan and the PLO to serve the common cause. Jordan's decision to establish an embassy for Palestine in Amman was a clear indication of the joint efforts being made to serve the Palestinians and their rights, the paper noted. It said that His Majesty King Hussein, who gave directives for the move, is displaying his determination to back the Palestinians in every way, and the creation of a Palestine embassy was the latest gift he offers to the Palestinian people. Furthermore, it said the King's talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, which were crowned with total success, came to add a new positive dimension to the bilateral relations.

Sawt Al Shaab daily also commented on the hoisting of the Palestinian flag over the embassy in Amman and said that Jordan's new move was a further indication that every thing will be done to back the rights and the just struggle of the Palestinian people. The paper said that the embassy in Amman was a symbol for the national objectives of the oppressed people who are now involved in confronting occupation in Palestine and came as another clear indication of Amman's determination to join hands with the Palestinians in their just struggle for peace.

Weekly Political Pulse

Israel needs visionary leadership

WHAT IF Israel continues to refuse to bow to reason and persists in its defiance of the mainstream international verdict on peace terms between Israel and the Arab side? The Arab side, including the Palestinian side through the PLO, has already invested much concessions in the elusive peace process and stands to lose a great deal if such investments come to naught. The principal beneficiary from such defeat of Arab peace overtures would obviously be the cause of extremism. The maximalist would have a field day if and when Arab moderation and bold Palestinian peace initiatives are dealt a crushing blow by Israel's determined strategy to pull the rug from under them. That is exactly the picture that emerges from Israel's frantic efforts to frustrate Arab aspirations for just and durable peace on the basis of international legitimacy. The Arab side should therefore be ready for every conceivable eventuality that could come its way from Tel Aviv. That is why the Arab side was prone to believe that Israel was behind the Pan Am crash last week. There is nothing too low for the Israeli leadership, the Arab World has often concluded, if it could negate the successful Arab peace offensive. By hook or by crook, the Israeli establishment is bent on derailing Arab reason and sense of moderation. The Palestinians say. In particular, the Arab World asserts, Israeli intelligence groups would persist on finding ways and means to drive a wedge between the Palestinian side and Washington. If worse comes to worst, Israeli militarism may indeed entertain a military onslaught on the Arab side as a final act of desperation in a bid to accomplish what diplomacy has

failed to do.

But against this hostile tidal wave from Israeli establishment there are equally strong if not stronger tidal waves that could come to the rescue of the peace process both from within and without Israel. From within Israel there are some forces already brewing with peaceful sentiments. One is not only reminded of the 34 per cent of the Israelis who now favour a dialogue with the PLO but also of the economic forces within Israel that are now at the stage of a tempest but likely to develop into a hurricane if left unattended to in a meaningful way. The austerity budget proposed by Shimon Peres, the incumbent Israeli minister of finance, is cutting deep into Israeli ability to thwart the peace process. Perhaps it is symbolic that Peres, the politician-turned-economist, is trying to accomplish by fiscal means what he failed to do by political means. i.e. undermine Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's stubborn plans to consolidate his and his Likud Party's grip over authority and rule in Israel.

But be that as it may, Israel is still waging an uphill battle against the budgetary constraints that ensued principally from the Palestinian uprising. It is a wellknown fact that Israel's military establishment cannot afford long durated mobilisations. All of its wars with the Arab armies were noticeably brief not lasting more than few days. In fact Israel's military strategy has been formulated on the basis of blitzes aiming at attaining its military and political objectives in, literally, days. The economy of Israel

has never been able to maintain a military footing based on long durated mobilisation. That is why the Palestinian uprising is such a pain to Israel and its military establishment is in panic to quell it at all costs. And that is why Israel was and remains to be haunted by the continuation of the Palestinian intifada.

If Israeli strategists would conclude that another blitz attack on its neighbours would offer them an urgently needed respite from the political pressures generated by the Arab peace offensive they will be deceiving only themselves. The Arabs and Israelis have been locked up in situation of war for more than four decades.

Any permanent setback to the peace process now would mean the continuation of this state of war between Israel and Arab side. The ultimate choice that the Israelis would have to make now is to choose between the prospect of another decade of armed conflict with the Arab side with all that it may entail, or to seize upon this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to wage peace and compromise with their neighbours even if that entails relinquishing some of their dreams and maximalist aspiration. The Arab side has clearly opted for compromise and made substantial concessions to that end. The Arab leadership cannot hold the reign on their peoples for ever and must show something in return for their policy of moderation. As for the Arab peoples, if moderation and centralism cannot pay off, the alternative must be clear to friend and foe. This is the time for a visionary Israeli leadership who are capable of seeing beyond their noses. Otherwise the stakes for the peoples of the region are indeed very high and awesome.

Japan's new emperor embodies blend of ancient and modern

TOKYO (R) — Akihito, who ascended Japan's chrysanthemum throne on the death of his father, 87-year-old Emperor Hirohito Saturday, weds the centuries-old traditions of the imperial family to evolve with the times.

As crown prince, he assumed a growing share of the emperor's ceremonial duties after Hirohito underwent major intestinal surgery in September 1987, a share that increased further after his father collapsed and became bedridden last Sept. 19.

MAN IN THE NEWS

The 55-year-old Akihito with longish iron-grey hair broke imperial precedent when he became the first Japanese heir-apparent to marry a commoner and has encouraged his three children to live like normal Japanese.

After Japan's defeat in World War II, Hirohito renounced the imperial family's claim of divine status, reducing the emperor to the role of symbol of the state and the unity of the Japanese people.

Akihito has indicated that he wishes to take the process further. "Centuries-old traditions of the imperial family must alter to meet social changes," he once said.

He has already put his own stamp on the image of the imperial family.

Give overtime where needed

By Salah Abdul Samad

IN conformity with the government's general guidelines for a reduction in expenses, government offices reduced to a minimum the volume of their employees overtime work so as to avoid paying extra allowances.

One of the government's departments affected by the measure was the Income Tax Department — something which indeed took many by surprise. The Income Tax Department is rightly considered the government's instrument for collecting revenues for the treasury, ensuring vast sums of income for the various government departments' expenses.

It is surprising to see such a department's work shrinking especially as the nature of the employees' work requires extra hours that are difficult to reduce given the enormous and ever-growing task shouldered by the Income Tax Department.

It is also difficult to understand the wisdom behind a decision to allow senior staff in that department alone enjoying full extra allowances which were partially denied to the smaller employees who effectively shoulder the day-to-day work by conducting estimates of citizens income and who calculate the amounts that should be paid.

It should be openly suggested that the Income Tax Department should be exempted from the government measures not to allow its employees to enjoy a privilege but rather to allow them to carry out their duty in full, despite the fact that it takes extra office hours to do it and involves paying them allowances for such extra work.

If the austerity measures imposed by the government are to be imposed on the Income Tax Department, then it is reasonable to demand that all staff, including senior ones, be treated on the same footing.

national call of the 1980s — to internationalise, and to find a way to blend its ancient traditions and values with its modern role as a world leader.

He has begun to raise the "chrysanthemum curtain" which hitherto shrouded the imperial family and has sought to demystify a common touch to the Japanese people.

In 1986, his family stopped for the first time at a red traffic light and took their first ride on a commuter train, albeit in a carriage emptied of all other passengers.

Akihito, according to ancient custom, was taken from his parents at an early age and raised by chamberlains in a separate palace.

But in post-war democratic Japan, his educational horizons were widened to include subjects closed to his forebears.

In 1946 while at a special school in Tokyo for the nobility, he studied English with an American teacher, Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining, specially invited to Japan by Hirohito for that purpose.

In November 1952, Prince Akihito was formally invested as heir to the throne in a ceremony which broke the tradition of centuries.

For the first time since, according to legend, the ceremony was first instituted in the reign of the mythical first sovereign, Emperor

Jimmu, in 660 B.C., the event was held in public and watched by local and foreign guests and the press.

In the following year, Akihito toured 14 countries in Europe and America as a representative of the emperor.

His marriage to a commoner in 1959 broke a centuries-old imperial precedent but was hailed by the majority of Japanese as a symbol of the new postwar democratic Japan.

The sports-loving prince courted Michiko Shoda, daughter of a flour-making industrialist, at a tennis club in the fashionable mountain resort of Karuizawa, northwest of Tokyo. He won her consent by telephone.

Their marriage in April 1959 was hailed by the majority of the Japanese as a symbol of the new postwar democratic Japan.

Later, he continued to defy precedent by insisting his children remain at home and not be taken out of the palace as babies.

He sent his eldest son, Prince Hiro, to Britain in 1983 to study at Oxford University, the first heir to the throne of Japan to study abroad. His second son, Prince Aya, is now also studying at Oxford.

Having witnessed the rise of militarism and its defeat during his boyhood, Akihito said in 1986 that he wanted to deepen international understanding through personal visits abroad.

LETTERS

More for tourism

To the Editor:

It seems that tourism is destined to play second fiddle to all other sectors of the economy of this country.

Since the recent drastic economic measures announced by the government in order to shore up the economy, those of us earning our livelihood in offering services to the tourists were heartened when the prime minister and other members of the government emphasised on several occasions the important role tourism can play in generating foreign reserves for the treasury.

Recently, the 1989 budget was announced underlining the very low priority given, yet again, to tourism. Allow me to illustrate.

Total current expenditures on tourism for 1989 are set at JD 634,000, a mere 0.09 per cent of the total current expenditures. And yet, total income that can be attributed to tourism and travel activities (Departure Tax, 3 per cent ticket tax and the 10 per cent tax on hotels and restaurants billings) comes up to a staggering JD 22,000,000, or 4.02 per cent of total government revenue for the same fiscal year. In very simple terms, the country is getting \$447.00 return for every \$1.00 invested.

Even allowing for those who may contend that the Departure Tax should not be considered, the other two items come up to JD 6,000,000 or 0.9 per cent of total revenue, giving a return of \$10.00 for every \$1.00 spent.

Of the total current expenditure, JD 81,000 is to be spent on capital investment. Allowing for running expenses of the ministry such as salaries, transport, etc., I cannot see more than JD 125,000 to JD 175,000 as being earmarked for the most important function of the ministry, namely marketing.

For those cynical of the importance of tourism, especially with the present economic climate in Jordan, let me point

out some of the figures published in the Central Bank Statistical Bulletin for October 1988:

Total arrivals in 1987, excluding Jordanian and Egyptian nationals, came up to 1,293,300 who spent an average of JD 151,830 per person, generating a whopping total of JD 196,360,000 (or \$578,379,970.50 at the average rate of JD 0.3395).

The political climate in the Middle East at the present time is very conducive to tourism. The Iraq-Iran war has been relegated to the inside pages; there is daily mention of a possible international peace conference on the Middle East. What is more important, the image of Jordan abroad has improved dramatically during the last 12 months. In the same period, Jordanian travel agents, hoteliers and our national carrier have spent large amounts, and thousands of man/hours, marketing their individual products.

In other words, we can safely assume that the number of arrivals can be increased by a modest 5 per cent during 1989, and advance bookings held by hoteliers and agents indicate that this is achievable. In terms of earnings, this could mean an additional \$29,000,000 flowing into our reserves. With properly funded aggressive marketing, we can sustain a similar growth over the next few years. If my estimate of the government marketing budget is correct (say JD 150,000 or \$300,000), then the return on investment is almost 100:1.

These figures clearly indicate that tourism is a very viable industry that deserves more attention, and funding, from the government. Every additional dollar spent on marketing could generate \$100 in hard currency. Can anyone think of another industry that comes anywhere close to this? I certainly cannot.

Munir Nassar
Amman



Japan's new Emperor, Akihito

mending relations with South Korea.

A planned trip to Seoul in 1986 with his wife was cancelled, ostensibly because Princess Michiko was ill. Analysts reckoned the real reason was public

opposition to the visit.

While the government there seemed eager to set the past behind, many Koreans still feel aversion toward Japan, born from 35 years under Japanese colonial rule from 1910 to 1945.

Hirohito ruled as god and man in war, defeat and prosperity

TOKYO (R) — Emperor Hirohito presided over Japan's greatest imperial expansion, defeat in an atomic attack and stunning post-war recovery in a 63-year reign which saw him demoted from divine ruler to constitutional figurehead.

A frail figure in his later years, he was viewed early in his reign as a descendant of a sun goddess and was frequently seen on a white horse reviewing his imperial troops.

His death is unlikely to quell the major controversy of his rule — whether he could have stopped Japan's entry into World War II. Some Japanese never forgave him for failing to prevent the war that linked Japan with Nazi Germany and resulted in two nuclear attacks.

In a rare public comment, Hirohito said his constitutional position did not allow him to override the cabinet decision to launch the raid on the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbour in 1941.

"As a result, I could not prevent Japan from going to war," he was quoted as telling a group of Japanese newspaper executives in 1981.

Hirohito said he imposed his political will only twice during his reign. He demanded in 1936 that leaders of an abortive army coup be executed and in 1945 he accepted the allies' demand for Japan's unconditional surrender, over which the cabinet was undecided.

Hirohito, speaking to his people for the first time, announced the surrender over the radio with one of history's most famous phrases: "The war situation has not necessarily developed to our advantage... we must bear the unbearable."

The American forces which landed were the first foreign conquerors to occupy Japan and in 1946 Hirohito renounced his divinity.

When Hirohito entered the U.S. embassy in Tokyo on Sept. 27, 1945, for his first meeting with General Douglas MacArthur, commander of the occupying forces, he accepted full responsibility for the war.

MacArthur later wrote: "A tremendous impression swept me. This courageous assumption of a responsibility implicit with death moved me to the very marrow of my bones."

Political expediency helped persuade the victorious allies not to try Hirohito but six other war leaders including the prime minister, General Hideki Tojo, were found guilty of war crimes by an allied tribunal and executed.

Subsequently a new constitution strongly influenced by the Americans left the emperor as a mere symbol of state, with less real or potential power than a



The late Emperor Hirohito

European constitutional monarch.

Despite his own reduction in status, the post-war half of his reign saw Japan rise from the ashes of defeat to become the non-Communist World's second most powerful economy and a close ally of the United States.

According to legends which are given little credence in modern Japan, Hirohito was the 124th in an unbroken 2,600-year-old dynasty line. In fact the line can be proved to have been broken at least twice.

For the first half of his life, the world's longest-reigning monarch was considered divine and ordinary people were forbidden to look at him directly.

He was rarely seen in public and lived almost all his life in the seclusion of Tokyo's moated imperial palace.

The title of his reign was "showa" (enlightened peace), ironic in retrospect but the name under which Hirohito will be known in Japanese history.

During his later years, Hirohito devoted his spare time to walks in the palace grounds, watching traditional sumo wrestling and soap operas on television and pursuing research into marine biology, a passion he retained from his youth.

A frail, stooping figure with thick spectacles, his health deteriorated markedly from February 1987. He collapsed twice in August of that year, and doctors operated to find a swollen pancreas blocking his intestine.

He later resumed some of his official duties but fell ill again in 1988 and grew progressively weaker, beginning a series of almost daily blood transfusions in September in his final crisis.

Hirohito was born on April 29, 1901. The first of four sons of Emperor Yoshihito and Empress Teimei. In accordance with court custom, he was removed from his parents at the age of three months and spent the next four years in the care of a royal rela-

tion. In 1921, he broke with tradition by becoming the first Japanese crown prince to travel abroad. During his six months in Europe, he struck up a friendship with the Prince of Wales, later the Duke of Windsor.

He first ate an English breakfast at Buckingham Palace and thereafter never lost his fondness for bacon and eggs.

Half a century later, he recalled the tour as his first experience of freedom after an upbringing as a "caged bird" in the seclusion of the imperial court.

He married Princess Nagako Kuni in an arranged marriage in 1924, and became emperor on his father's death on Christmas Day in 1926.

Empress Nagako gave birth to four daughters but Hirohito resisted the suggestion of court officials that he take a concubine to produce a son.

The succession was assured when Crown Prince Akihito was born in 1933, followed by another son and daughter. The empress and five children survive.

On a tour in 1971 of Western European countries, the first tour abroad by a Japanese emperor, Hirohito sometimes had a hostile reception, reflecting the still vivid memories of those who had suffered at Japanese hands in war-time.

On a visit to California's Disneyland in 1975, he accepted a Mickey Mouse watch as a gift. He often wore the watch in Japan, revealing a lighter side to his dutiful public image.

Hirohito's postwar image was that of a man devoted to his family, displaying a shy and retiring dignity in public. He neither drank nor smoked and followed a simple diet.

He won respect in the marine biology field and became a leading authority on hydrozoans — jellyfish and related creatures — writing and collaborating on more than a dozen books on the subject.

Zimbabwe: Health reformers with traditional kits

By Jose Ruijter

HARARE — Almost 10,000 infants and young children die each year in Zimbabwe — the victims of diarrhoeal diseases. Further suffering is caused among the young by malnutrition and other water-related diseases like bilharzia, dysentery, hookworm and eye infections.

And yet too few Zimbabwean parents are observing the basic rules of personal hygiene and sanitation; many are simply not aware. A study by the University of Zimbabwe and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Sabi Valley, for example, showed that none of the male heads of households and only 0.8 per cent of the mothers identified sanitation as a priority.

Most of these people are interested in getting clean water but, even as they do, they do not hesitate to use polluted water at the same time. As a result, water and sanitation programmes have made only a negligible impact on health improvement in Zimbabwe.

After a decade of that experience, most government and non-governmental institutions are now aware that supply of water and construction of latrines is not an end in itself. The clean water supply is wasted on people who persist on going to the river to wash clothes, and come home with bilharzia.

Indeed, most women want to have a water source close to their homes to avoid long trips on foot, but they are less concerned with the advantages of clean water. Similarly, a popular eagerness to construct latrines seems mostly inspired by the desire to lay hands on free building materials. Ownership of a latrine — an expensive device in the rural areas — adds to the household's social status, but avoidance rules prohibit laws to share the facility.

Also, most parents believe that a child's stool is harmless. It is

therefore exceptional for a child under the age of five to use a latrine. Children thus become major sources of infection and major victims.

Government institutions, particularly the Blair Research Laboratory and the District Development Fund in Zimbabwe, therefore, are trying to improve the efficacy of their water and sanitation programmes by adapting their strategies to those traditional beliefs and habits which promote cleanliness and hygiene.

For the Shona people water is not just a commodity, but rather an object of reverence: a source of life and a symbol of fertility. According to the traditional belief, natural springs and ponds are inhabited by ancestral spirits (Njuzu), who protect the purity and continuity of this natural resource and thus ensure the survival of the community.

Many people claim that disrespect for the ancestral spirits is the cause of the drying up of springs and rivers. Those individuals who deny the community access to a water source — even when situated on private property — or willfully pollute them can be punished by poisoning or be accused of witchcraft.

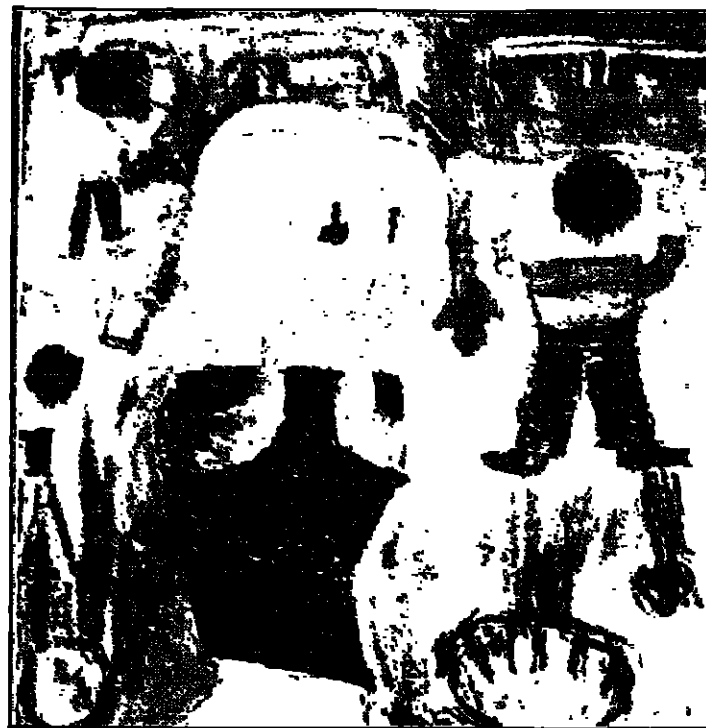
Although outsiders like water engineers and sanitation experts who unwittingly interfere with these unwritten laws are not treated as harshly, their work sometimes is influenced by the tradi-

tionalists. In the Karoi district in northwest Zimbabwe, a well-sinking team which failed to hit water ascribed its failure to the anger of the Njuzu, the ancestral spirits inhabiting a traditional spring nearby. The village responded by forming a committee which included a water diviner and the traditional headman. The elders invoked the ancestral spirits and water was found.

Recent measures to establish water resources all over Zimbabwe have tied in with this tradition, while helping the ministry in cutting expenses.

Communal responsibility for water sources is not the only example of a traditional practice which is conducive to social development. It is customary for Zimbabwean women, for example, to rinse a bucket with water and sand before fetching water — thus washing their hands at the same time. This has proved to be a very salutary practice; dirty hands are a major cause of infections.

Armed with this knowledge, the Blair Research Laboratory is presently experimenting with the use of traditional gourds (mukombe) filled with water for hand washing in latrines. Most latrines are often built more than 20 metres from the homestead, and most are far from a water source. Contamination of ground water therefore is hardly a problem, but hand washing is. Gourds filled with water, hung on the latrine wall, prove a cheap and relatively healthy way out — Academic File.



Tear Gas in My Eyes, by Sahar Mansur, 8, at the London exhibition of paintings by Palestinian children.



Young Yasmine contemplates the work of a Palestinian child at the London exhibition of paintings by Palestinian children in the Israeli occupied territories.

Faithful witnesses testify

Palestinian children have produced powerful images from their experiences under Israeli occupation in an exhibition coinciding with Christmas celebrations in Europe.

By Maureen Ali

LONDON — London at Christmas can be fairyland for children. In all the main streets, lights sparkle and Christmas trees glisten. The shop windows are ablaze with colour. Inside there are ani-

imated Christmas scenes, fairy-tale tableaux and cheerful Santa Clauses waiting to hear who wants what on Christmas Eve. All around, Christmas carols blast out from loud speakers and in most schools a Nativity play is performed recalling the birth of

Christ in a humble stable in Palestine.

As they act out this ritualistic rendition of the Christmas story, few of the children will make any connection with the situation in Holy Land today. Few will be aware of the suffering of their peers in occupied Palestine, living under Israeli occupation and denied access even to basic education.

It is therefore appropriate that during this festive season, London children will have a chance to visit a remarkable art exhibition *Faithful Witnesses: Palestinian Children Recreate Their World* which features over 50 drawings and paintings by children aged four to 14 from the West Bank and Gaza.

The timely exhibition, coming soon after the anniversary of *intifada*, the uprising which began in the occupied territories in December 1987, has already drawn large crowds at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva and New York. It will remain at the London Kufa Gallery until early January before travelling to Europe.

The drawings were selected by Washington-based Palestinian artist, Kamal Boullata. Aware that the children were prohibited by the Israeli authorities from attending school, Boullata suggested that they might find an outlet for their frustrations on paper. Within weeks he was overwhelmed by hundreds of artworks. Those selected represent the core of the collection.

Boullata points to three main themes which are reflected in the exhibition: the traditions of pastoral life, the experience of everyday life under occupation, and faith in a vision of peace which the children have never known.

The titles of the paintings are as revealing as the paintings

themselves: *Ploughing the Land; Women at the Village Fountain; A Walk in Grandfather's Olive Grove; Throwing Stones; Barricades; Protest Demonstration at Am'ari Refugee Camp; Tear Gas in my Eyes; Arresting my Brother Imad; Night Flight over Jerusalem; Palestinian Wedding.* All capture the children's hopes and fears, as they struggle to put down on paper the often distressing experiences of their daily routine.

In *Tear Gas in My Eyes*, eight-year-old Sahar Mansur depicts herself struggling to soothe her bright red burning eyes, following an Israeli attack on a demonstration. Symbolically, she is dressed in a skirt made from the Palestinian flag. In the background, three of her friends continue their stone throwing activities, having not yet succumbed to the effects of the gas.

In *Picking Lemons*, 13-year-old Hani Rummaneh recalls harvest time in a peaceful, idyllic scene in which he tackles the task of collecting abundant fruit from laden trees. In *Hunted by an Israeli Army Jeep*, an Arab Horse Gallops in the Sun, 11-year-old Valentina Afif symbolically recaptures the legendary Arab steed, proud and fleet of foot, easily outmanoeuvring the pursuing jeep. In its streaming mane and tail, the horse bears Palestinian flags, an assertion of its own identity and that of its people.

Though their world is bounded by war and occupation the children nevertheless seek out beauty and bright colours. The oppressiveness of their existence is compensated by the use of vivid tones. Only the Israelis are seen in terms of dull metallic greys and with foreboding ruddy complexions. All aspects of Palestinian life are lovingly recreated in the finest detail. But so, too, are the

nightmares: demolition of houses, beating of adults, wounding of children, arrests and deportations.

Yet there is hope, perhaps best encapsulated in Sahar Mansur's *Night Flight over Jerusalem*, inspired by the Prophet's miraculous journey from Mecca. Here a winged horse overflies mosques and churches, domes and spires, where candles burn and Christmas trees glow like symbols of eternal peace.

In neighbouring Lebanon, the longing for peace is just as real and the plight of its children living in fear of war and destruction just as poignant. They too are remembered in London at Christmas, during a special evening held by the British-Lebanese Association.

A *Children's Tour of Lebanon* was a one-night event designed to remind Lebanese children, some of whom have never seen Lebanon, of the sights, sounds and even tastes of their native country.

Special attractions include a performance of Christmas songs in English and Arabic by a group of handicapped Lebanese children on a sponsored tour of Britain, and songs and poems by London-based children. But the highlight is the performance of *Dabke* and traditional dance by the Habib Wehbe Ensemble, a lively and competent group of children and young adults whose services were volunteered to make the evening a roaring success.

In remembering their country, the London-based children are also encouraged to recall the plight of their peers. A film about children in Lebanon is included in the programme. Some of the funds raised from the event will be donated towards the needy — Academic File.

Eva Marie Saint looks again for substantial roles

By Christopher Michaud
Reuters

NEW YORK — Veteran actress Eva Marie Saint is tired of playing mothers.

Her early years in Hollywood paired her in major roles with leading men like Cary Grant, Marlon Brando, Paul Newman and Richard Burton, but Saint has spent much of the past 15 years starring in "family" television dramas.

Her biography in the "Film Encyclopedia" says that after her academy award-winning film debut with Marlon Brando in "On the Waterfront," Saint's subsequent parts "were neither suited to nor worthy of her unique personality and talent."

"It's probably true," Saint, 64, said recently in an interview. She was visiting New York on her way to Rockport, Massachusetts, for the television premiere of her latest film, "I'll be home for Christmas," which was shot in the picturesque seaside town.

In this film, too, Saint plays a mother. But she's not complaining. Saint and Hal Holbrook appear as the anxious parents of a young soldier due home from battle for the Christmas holidays during World War II.

She took the role despite its maternal aspects because she liked the script and looked forward to working again with Holbrook, her co-star in "When Hell Was in Session."

"I think it's a good story, especially for young people who have no idea what sacrifices this country made in 1944," she said. "Not only in lives, but food was rationed, women worked in the factories, and there was no 'yea' or 'nay'. It wasn't like Vietnam. Everybody went to stop Hitler, and there was no question that people wouldn't go."

Leading men

Despite strong performances opposite the likes of Paul Newman, Richard Burton and Yves Montand throughout the 1960s, Saint's film career went on hold after 1970, when youth oriented films and special effects extravaganzas left little room for an actress of her sophistication and classical training.

It was then that she went back to her roots in the theatre (when cast in "Waterfront" she was on Broadway in Horton Foote's "The Trip to Bountiful"). She starred in "First Monday in October," with Henry Fonda, "Duet for one" and Clifford Odets' "The country girl."

Saint also made several television movies, many of which showcased her "mother mode." She has been nominated for Emmy awards — the TV industry's Oscars — three times and recently put her maternal instincts to work as Cybill Shepherd's mom in the hit show "Moonlighting."

Her complaint with matronly roles is that they're "not substantial, and they're very cliché. I don't know why writers write 'mothers.' There isn't such a person anyway. Mothers are made up of problems of their own," she said.

So what would she prefer?

"I'd like to do more comedy, which I'm convinced I'll do." Her role in the 1986 hit "Nothing in common," with Jackie Gleason and Tom Hanks, should help. Saint said she liked the part because it involved change for the character, something usually lacking in parts she's offered.

Alternately, Saint would like to play "A mother with problems, or a professional woman," a "bad woman" is something she's aching to portray.

Theatre and TV

"There's that side of me, too. I can be mean and scream — ask my husband," she explained. Saint and director Jeff Hayden have been married for 37 years.

Oddly, Saint's sporadic feature film record has been in keeping with her original career plans.

"I had never wanted to do movies. I just wanted to do theatre and live television," she said of the days when she was first cast as Brando's girlfriend in "On the Waterfront."

"But it (the film's location) was just in Hoboken (New Jersey, part of the port of New York), so I didn't feel I was prostituting my art, you know, going out to the (West) Coast. It was over here," she said in the interview in Manhattan, where she studied at the actor's studio with Lee Strasberg in the 1950s.

Saint said working in "Waterfront" with Brando helped ease her nerves. "He was so giving and considerate. Here it was my first scene in a movie, ever, and I have to lean over and kiss Marlon Brando."

"But he was so sweet, after a couple of days I felt like one of the gang," Saint said. Saint did admit to being vulnerable to Brando's magnetism. "Oh, he was so attractive. I was so glad I was married at the time — newly married, but married — because he had it all."

Saint won an Oscar for the film and went on to star opposite Cary Grant in Alfred Hitchcock's "North by northwest."

"He was charming, everything you'd think he would be," Saint said of Grant.

But her impressions of Hitchcock are less in line with other actors, who saw him as aloof and dictatorial.

"He was just like a big bear," she said. "He was very affectionate. He'd put his arms around you and send you funny telegrams years later."



Eva Marie Saint with Gary Grant

RESTAURANTS AND SERVICES

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳 MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30
Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 651922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q
Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akliah Hospital
Tel: 641093

Kashmir RESTAURANT
FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT
Special Executive Lunches
Take away service available
Open Daily 12:30 - 3:30 pm & 7:30 - 11:30 pm
After the Holiday Inn hotel Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

DAROTEL
To advertise in this section
Call 667171-6 670141-4 ext. 223

EVERY DAY PEOPLE WHO NEED MAINTENANCE SERVICES
CALL US
Electrolux
P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN
Tel. 604671

For all your:
Packing, Air Freight Forwarding, Customs Clearance, Door-to-door Service, Ticketing and Reservation needs,
please call:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806 Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604676, 604696

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420
DIRTY DANCING
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NUJUM** Tel: 675571
THE OPPONENT
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
Faten Hamameh in **Bitter Day... Sweet Day (Arabic)**
Performances 3:30, 6:10, 8:30, 10:30

Mary Hager
Tom Warrick
Newsweek

Gorbachev favours defence cuts, urges action on big state deficit

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said he favours reductions in defence spending as a key step to trim a large budget deficit that could threaten his sweeping reform programme.

Speaking at a meeting with cultural representatives, Gorbachev also issued new warnings to officials bent on curtailing his "perestroika" programme to restructure Soviet society.

In a lengthy speech, carried by the TASS news agency, he called for tolerance of national sentiment in some parts of the Soviet Union, but said a centralised system of government was still required.

Gorbachev acknowledged that previous Soviet leaders had committed serious errors in paying insufficient attention to agriculture, light industry and services.

Stark economic choices had to be made, he said, to reduce budget allocations in several major areas "not having a direct bearing on people's social needs."

"The issue is so sharp that we must also look at what is to be done with defence spending," he said. "Initial studies show that we can reduce it."

Gorbachev said the budget deficit had been fuelled by neglect and particularly the drop in the price of oil, of which the Soviet Union is a major exporter.

The cutback on tax-generating alcohol sales pushed the deficit by

last year to 49 billion roubles (\$83 billion). The nine-year Soviet involvement in Afghanistan, the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident and last month's earthquake in Armenia had exacerbated the problem.

Gorbachev told his audience — editors, artists, composers and writers — that attacks on his leadership and programmes were commonplace both from conservatives fearful of change and those who said his reform programme offered nothing concrete.

"There are indeed problems in overcoming the brake on economic and social and political development. New problems keep coming up and solutions aren't easy," Gorbachev said.

"We already have a fully-de-

veloped idea of the society which we are moving towards... we have to continue working out our concept of a new aspect of socialism. And we're doing this now," he emphasised.

The Soviet leader has freely admitted in recent speeches that his economic reforms are not taking hold as he would wish, particularly in the key area of food distribution.

Gorbachev also addressed the current ethnic difficulties besetting the Soviet Union.

"We need a strong centre," he said. "This is dictated by the nature of our economy and the federal nature of our government... without a strong centre this would take on an undesirable character and would simply be impossible."

World's largest port fights to stay on top

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — From atop his mammoth crane, Jan De Jong lifts a 25-ton container from a freighter with a flick of his joystick, punches a code onto his computer screen and delivers the cargo onto a railway car 200 metres away.

"It's quite a change compared with 20 years ago," the 49-year-old De Jong mused. "Getting 25 tons of cargo from the hold would take us all day. Now it's just a matter of minutes."

The change in De Jong's workday routine reflects the 1980s transformation of Rotterdam, the world's biggest and busiest port, from a labour-intensive harbour operation into a digitalised logistics centre, where fewer and fewer people handle ever more cargo.

City officials say the change has begun just in time to fend off the rival ports of Antwerp, Hamburg and Le Havre. All are preparing for the cutthroat competition expected throughout Western Europe after national trade barriers are removed as part of the 1992 market integration of the 12-nation European Community (EC).

The Dutch government's game plan is to make the Netherlands the main trading centre and transit point for goods entering and leaving northwestern Europe. Toward that end it has begun a large programme of subsidies and

tax breaks to attract European headquarters and distribution operations of multinational companies.

The Dutch scored a major success last year when the Japanese auto giant Nissan announced it would locate its European headquarters in the Netherlands.

The city of Rotterdam earmarked one billion guilders (\$500 million) in the 1987-1992 period to further upgrade the 2,148-hectare (5,306-acre) port's traffic radar and telecommunications network. New container terminals and additional railway yards leading to the port's 40 kilometres of quays also are part of the project.

"We need to put ourselves on the map again as a sophisticated link in the transport chain, especially in our main market areas — Latin America, the United States, and the Far East," Rotterdam Mayor Bram Peper told the Associated Press.

"In the 1970s, complacency set in. The prevailing opinion was that we were the biggest and the best — a god-given fact that wasn't believed subject to any change," said the socialist mayor in a recent interview.

Paradoxically, that period of smugness coincided with the worldwide economic slump that followed the sharp rise in oil prices in 1973.

Because of its huge volume of operations, Rotterdam, where

the Rhine and Maas rivers flow into the North Sea, suffered less from that recession than other European ports.

But another recession in the early 1980s brought a Western European industrial retrenchment, shifts from heavy to light industry, and radical changes in transport needs that brought Rotterdam's traditional bulk handling operation to the verge of obsolescence.

"There is a marked shift in the economic activity of Western Europe, a shift not only in what is being produced, but also in where it is being manufactured," said Ron Van Harten of Rotterdam's Municipal Port Authority.

From 1945 until the mid-1970s, Rotterdam's biggest single customer was West Germany's Ruhr area, whose steel mills and huge chemical plants consumed vast quantities of iron ore, coal and petroleum shipped through Rotterdam.

But West Germany's economic centre of gravity has been drifting southward toward Bavaria's new computer and component factories.

Those high-tech sectors require quicker handling and delivery of small containerised loads, instead of the huge but slow bulk freighter shipments that made Rotterdam's worldwide reputation, according to Van Harten.

The new high-tech industries are particularly sought after by

this small nation eager to avoid worsening its environmental problems with pollution-generating heavy industry.

"We're planning to lure high-tech industries to Rotterdam with our all-in package — transport, a sophisticated service sector such as banking and insurance, a good cultural environment," Mayor Peper said.

Heavily damaged by Nazi bombing during World War II, Rotterdam arose from the rubble of 1945 with a massive buildup of the port's bulk transit facilities, notably in the petroleum and chemicals sectors.

The rapid reconstruction of the bomb-damaged city and the extension of the port earned Rotterdam the accolade "diamond of the Dutch economy." In less than 20 years, the city surpassed New York as the world's busiest port. Last year, it handled 250 million tons of freight, more than 15 times its 1948 total.

The port city sees another challenge in the channel tunnel, which will become a major transport route between Britain and southern Europe upon its completion, scheduled for 1993. Experts predict the tunnel — and the new road-and-rail infrastructure linking up to it — will shift European transport patterns southward. The channel's continental end is near the French port of Dunkirk, 200 kilometres south of Rotterdam.

'89 brings 'socialist capitalism' to Hungary

BUDAPEST (AP) — For Hungary, the new year brings the Soviet Bloc's first stock exchange, new incentives for foreign investors and other economic reforms that the Soviet Union is eyeing with interest.

Hungary began pioneering experiments unique to the East Bloc nearly three decades ago. By the 1970s, it boasted a small but dynamic private sector, vested managers of state-run enterprises with power to turn a profit and offered many a stan-

dard of living unequalled elsewhere in the Soviet Bloc.

Economic experimentation continued into the 1980s, resulting in such unique wrinkles as the Soviet Bloc's first bond market. But critics now say such moves came too late and were too little to permit competition with more dynamic Western economies.

By the 1980s the economy was moribund, characterised by a growing foreign debt, below-plan production, increasing government budget deficits and persis-

tent inflation.

A leadership change last year swept away many of the more cautious old guard. Now politicians and economic experts are touting the "socialist market economy," envisaging reforms that come closer to Western-style capitalism.

Moscow has encouraged Budapest in its reform drive, apparently anxious to see the result in this comparatively small country of 10.6 million before taking similar steps in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Politburo member Alexander N. Yakovlev, at a Budapest news conference in November, chided Soviet journalists for not covering Hungarian reforms more comprehensively.

One of a number of planned new laws this year will allow the

transformation of state-owned enterprises into companies issuing stock. Foreigners may hold up to 100 per cent ownership in a Hungarian company, trade shares on the Hungarian Stock Exchange and take advantage of tax breaks granted to investors.

Entrepreneurs may employ up to 500 people and seek foreign financial backing by selling shares.

The government, attempting to reduce a \$17 billion debt — the Soviet Bloc's highest in per capita terms — has vowed to sell off at least five billion forints (\$100 million) worth of state property, in addition to reducing subsidies on both production and consumer goods and services.

Restructuring the economy is vital both to domestic stability and foreign creditability.

Bankers recommend strict measures to fight international money-laundering

ZURICH (R) — Western central bankers have joined the fight against international crime, urging banks to make it harder for criminals to disguise the origins of their money.

In a statement, a committee of bankers from 12 Western countries said banks should insist on knowing the identity of their customers and should not handle suspicious transactions.

"Money-laundering has become a matter of worldwide concern in the last few years," said Werner Abegg, spokesman for the Swiss National Bank, which published the statement.

"This is an appeal to banks to exercise a certain self-discipline in this area and to cooperate with the legal authorities," he said. The statement was drafted by

the Committee on Banking Regulations and Supervisory Practices, formerly known as the Cooke Committee. It urged banks to adopt higher ethical standards and to cooperate with police.

"The committee considers that the first and most important safeguard against money-laundering is the integrity of banks' own managements and their vigilant determination to prevent their institutions becoming associated with criminals or being used as a channel for money-laundering," it said.

Some investigators say banking secrecy laws in financial centres such as Switzerland and Luxembourg make them havens for the proceeds of crime. Money can be channelled through several accounts until it becomes im-

possible to trace its origin. Both countries are enacting laws to make money-laundering a crime punishable by up to five years' imprisonment.

Swiss Justice Minister Elisabeth Kopp resigned last month because of her husband's association with a company implicated by prosecutors in the country's worst money-laundering scandal.

Luxembourg-based Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) is under indictment in Florida on charges of helping to launder profits from Colombian drugs.

The committee's main recommendations are:

— Banks should make reasonable efforts to determine the identities of customers and the ownership of accounts and safe deposits. They should not deal

with customers who failed to provide evidence of their identity. — Business should be conducted in accordance with high ethical standards and laws should be obeyed. Banks should avoid transactions which they had good reason to suppose were associated with money-laundering.

— Banks should cooperate fully with law enforcement authorities. Banks which suspected that money came from criminal activity should take appropriate measures, such as severing relations with the customer or closing or freezing accounts.

The Swiss National Bank and the Federal Banking Commission said the statement had been influenced by Switzerland's own code of conduct and urged Swiss banks to comply with it.

Big takeover battle looms for British GEC

LONDON (AP) — A consortium with possible foreign interests has been formed to bid for Britain's General Electric Co. (GEC) in what would be the country's largest takeover battle, reports said Sunday.

The reports said the bid appears to be in reaction to the joint £1.7 billion (\$3 billion) bid by GEC and West Germany's Siemens A.G. for Plessey, a holding company strong in communications.

The British GEC is not related to the U.S. company of the same name.

The Observer and the Sunday Times newspapers reported that the consortium, called Metson Ltd., was announced Saturday and will be led by Sir John Cuckney, the chairman of Westland PLC.

The newspapers estimated the bid would have to be worth more than £6 to £7 billion (\$11 to \$12 billion), making it Britain's largest takeover attempt, the

newspapers reported. If successful, the consortium planned to break up GEC, Britain's largest manufacturing company and a leading maker of defence electronics, and sell it off, the Times said.

Both reports noted the sensitivity of foreign interest in such an important manufacturing company, particularly following the controversy over this issue surrounding Cuckney's company. The acquisition of Sikorsky, a U.S. helicopter maker, of a stake in Westland, Britain's only helicopter builder, over rival European bidders created a government controversy in 1986 in which two cabinet ministers resigned.

Michael Heseltine, who resigned as defence secretary in opposition to the U.S. bid, said of the GEC issue: "It is unthinkable that such a strategic company on the leading edge of technology should pass into foreign hands without the widest issues of

national interest being taken into account," the Observer reported. Both newspapers quoted Lord Weinstock, managing director of GEC, as saying only: "We have to see the rabbit before we can shoot it."

Membership of the consortium has not been determined, but among possible members were the U.S.-British owned STC, Plessey, and the French electronics group Thomson CSF, the reports said. The Observer said Plessey had been seeking partners for the consortium.

Lord Keith, chairman of STC, told the Observer "at this time, STC is not part of any consortium. But I cannot say categorically that, next week, it might not be different."

The U.S. firms General Electric and AT & T may join the consortium, both reports said. Lord Prior, chairman of GEC, resigned Saturday from the board of Barclays Bank, which is providing financial backing, the

Observer said. It added that GEC's cash assets, amounting to "hundreds of millions" of pounds were removed from the bank.

Lazard Brothers, a stockbroking company, is arranging the bid and made the announcement of the consortium, the reports said.

The announcement followed widespread rumours on the London Stock Exchange Friday about Plessey joining hands with another British concern to wage a counterbid for GEC.

GEC stock closed four pence higher at 202 pence amid heavy trading, with a total of 16 million GEC shares changing hands.

Plessey shares advanced four pence to 228 pence after GEC-Siemens entered the market for the first time since launching their bid to purchase five million Plessey shares, less than one per cent of the total.

GEC employs 157,000 people and has an annual turnover of £5.5 billion (\$9 billion) with pre-tax profits of £700 million (£1.2 billion).

Inti devaluation couples more Peruvian austerity

LIMA (AP) — The government Saturday devalued currency 28.5 per cent and installed other austerity adjustments in a programme it said was aimed at boosting exports and controlling inflation. The Peruvian inti was devalued from 300 to 700 intis to the dollar, the price of basic foods was increased an average of 60 per cent and salaries for most workers were raised 30 per cent, according to the government paper La Cronica.

The package, which took effect Saturday, is the third in a series of devaluations and austerity measures since September aimed at controlling rampant inflation, which hit an all-time high of 1,722 per cent last year.

The official rate was 33 intis to the dollar before the September devaluation.

Analysts said rocketing inflation coupled with a dramatic shrinkage of the economy last year, estimated at 8.4 per cent, have hit Peru's working class and its poor majority hardest.

Unrest has mounted in the form of widespread labour strikes and shoppers have had to wait for hours in long lines to purchase basic foods, such as milk, bread and cooking oil, which have

been in short supply since late last year.

Analysts said the deteriorating economic situation and a relentless eight-year insurgency by leftist guerrillas, have undermined government stability. Rumours of a pending military coup surged sporadically since the September austerity package.

"This third package of measures forms part of a policy to progressively reduce inflation, while promoting exports and slowly diminishing food subsidies," Economy Minister Carlos Rivas said in announcing the programme.

He has predicted the 1988 inflation figure will be cut half this year.

Independent economists said the programme has not gone far enough in reducing the government's heavy spending policies and forecast inflation this year of at least 6,000 per cent.

Peru's economic woes began to mount late in 1987 when the reserves evaporated and the government continued its programme, despite a widening fiscal and trade deficits, a cutback in investment and lack of fresh loans to bolster dollar reserve funds.

GIB predicts OPEC recapturing half of world oil market in six years

BAHRAIN (R) — OPEC will regain control of half the world oil market within a decade if it sticks to its policy of restrained

production for a few more years, the Gulf International Bank (GIB) has predicted.

Bank economist Henry Azzam said in a monthly report that growing demand for oil and declining supplies from non-OPEC states would help the group boost its current share of the oil market.

"If OPEC continues to follow a policy of restrained production, targeting a certain market share and maintaining oil prices moderately low for a few more years, the structural changes... taking in about six to seven years from now, OPEC will be able to capture once again 50 per cent of the world market with every incremental barrel consumed as a result of increased world demand in effect being produced by OPEC," he said.

FURNISHED VILLA FOR RENT

Consists of 4 bedrooms, lounge, salon, dining, central heating, servant room, garage and garden. Area of house is 350 square metres. Imported deluxe furniture. Location: Seventh Circle, Abdullah Ghosheh Street.

Call tel: 821058
Notice: Rent for six months only

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Italy opens commercial centre in Dubai

DUBAI (R) — Italy has opened a trade centre in Dubai, its fifth in the Gulf. "With the start of peace in the region it has become necessary to develop trade," said Marsilio Engliazzi, head of Italy's Foreign Trade Authority, in a reference to the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war last August. Dubai, the second largest of the United Arab Emirates, signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement with Italy in 1984. Italy also has commercial centres in Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Europeans stress fighting smugglers

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch, Belgian and West German police have agreed to step up their fight against smuggling of stolen cars, sometimes to other continents. Rotterdam police spokesman Hans Stoop has said police from Hamburg, Bremen and Antwerp held talks with colleagues in the Dutch city after investigations showed these ports were often used by gangs smuggling cars out of Europe. French and Italian police would be asked to join in the fight, he said. More than one million cars were stolen in Europe every year. Many were shipped to the United States, Surinam, Ghana, Nigeria, Lebanon and several East Bloc countries.

Italians lose riches to Britons

MILAN (AP) — In a development sure to hurt national pride, Italy has slipped behind Britain in the lists of the world's richest countries, according to a report by the National Statistics Institute. The institute, known as ISTAT, has said that Italy lost the fifth place on the list, which it had gained in 1987 to a chorus of nationalistic fervour. In the ISTAT lists, Britain edged Italy 803.7 to 803.6 in the "standings" of the richest nations of the free world, which consider average purchasing power. Since statistics are less than an exact science and are subject to variable inputs, Italians can still appeal to a 1987 list issued by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in which Italy is well ahead of Britain in the Gross National Product, expressed in billion of dollars and computed on average exchange rates of the lira and pound in 1987. In the IMF survey Italy is listed fifth, with \$758.1 billion, compared with \$669.5 billion for Britain, placed sixth.

Sotheby's reports 27.5% rise in sales

LONDON (AP) — Sotheby's, the international auction house, reported a 27.5 per cent increase in auction sales during 1988, highlighted by the sale of collections belonging to Elton John and Andy Warhol and paintings by Pablo Picasso and Jasper Johns. Worldwide sales totalled \$1.814 billion in 1988, compared with \$1.423 billion last year and more than triple the 1984 figure of \$586 million, said a statement by the 244-year-old auction house. The autumn 1988 season alone saw a rise in sales of 42.9 per cent to \$871.1 million, it said. The statement quoted Michael Ansie, president and chief executive officer of Sotheby's Holdings Inc., as saying that while "extraordinary prices" were being reached at the top end of the market, the middle and low ranges were also doing well, with some 190,000 lots valued at under \$10,000 sold in 1988. Sotheby's noted the collection belonging to Warhol, the late Elton John's sold for \$4.8 million (\$8.7 million) at present exchange rates).

Diamond sales sparked in 1988

LONDON (R) — World diamond sales rose to a record last year because of a weak dollar and strong demand, the Central Selling Organisation (CSO) has said. CSO is the London-based marketing arm of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. of South Africa which has a virtual monopoly over rough diamond sales. It said \$4.172 billion worth were sold in 1988 which was 36 per cent up on a previous record of \$3.075 billion in 1987. "1988 was an exceptional year and we are unlikely to see it repeated in 1989," said CSO spokesman Andrew Lamont.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, Jan. 8, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	Japanese yen (for 100)
U.S. dollar	481.0	483.0	379.3	381.2
Pound sterling	854.4	856.7	254.7	255.9
Deutschemark	264.5	265.8	77.2	77.6
Swiss franc	310.6	312.2	36.1	36.3
			Belgian franc (for 10)	126.2

LARGE APT SUPER LUXE

— 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living, dining etc... Carpet wall to wall, T.V. antenna with remote, telephone 2 lines, independent central heating, 3 entrances with verandas, garden with oriental pool.

Pls call: (635194) Safwan from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SOME PEOPLE DON'T TAKE STUDYING BY MAIL SERIOUSLY

Some people believe that you cannot get a good education through Distance Education. Some people believe that because you are getting your education through a correspondence school that you don't have to work for your diploma or your degree. Some people confuse "phony degree mills" with legitimate Distance Education Schools. If you are one of these people, don't read any further. ICS is looking for people who take their education SERIOUSLY, whether attending a traditional college or studying by mail. We are looking for people who will apply themselves and work hard to get the full value of the training that ICS offers. Diplomas and Degrees are issued upon successful completion of a course accredited by the National Home Study Council, your guarantee of a quality education. If you take your education seriously and want to train for a new career or improve your job skills for advancement on your present job, ICS may have the right career training for you. Choose from 45 career courses listed below. Select the one career field you would like to train for and indicate that choice in the coupon below. Cut out this ad and mail it to ICS TODAY. We will send you a detailed course outline and tuition schedule by return Air Mail. There is no obligation.

SEND FOR FREE FACTS—NO OBLIGATION

ICS International Correspondence Schools, Dept. FZ519

Box 1900, Scranton, Pennsylvania 15501, U.S.A.

ASSOCIATE IN SPECIALIZED BUSINESS DEGREE PROGRAMS

60 Business Management

61 Accounting

62 Business Management with Option in Marketing

63 Business Management with Option in Finance

ASSOCIATE IN SPECIALIZED TECHNOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAMS

67 Electronics Technology

68 Civil Engineering Tech

69 Mechanical Eng. Tech

65 Electrical Eng. Tech

66 Computer Programming

67 U.S. High School Diploma

68 Catering/Gourmet Cooking

69 Medical Dental Office Asst.

70 Microcomputer Repair

71 Hotel Restaurant Mgmt.

72 Air Conditioning & Refrig.

73 Interior Decorating

74 Fashion Merchandising

75 Motorcycle Repair

76 Surveying & Mapping

77 Sales & Marketing

78 Wildlife Conservation

79 Veterinary Assistant

246 TV Radio Servicing

250 Building Trades

161 Engineering

108 General Business

144 Practical English

TO LET

First floor of a villa furnished or unfurnished, 300 square metres, de luxe finishing, one master bedroom plus two bedrooms and one bathroom, spacious sitting and dining room and guests toilet, separate heating, telephone, electricity and water supply. Location: Jubeiha opposite "Highway Supermarket," University of Jordan road.

Please call telephone: 846912

VACANCY AD

A co. in Amman has the vacancy for an executive secretary, graduate from Alwasfiyeh Centre. Fluent in English and Arabic with a minimum of 2 years experience.

Mail C.V. to P.O. Box 910180
Att: Management Dept.
Not later than Jan. 15, 1989

SHOPPING CENTRE FOR SALE

Mecca Street

Located on two streets, 20 metres west and 20 metres south with a public park, car park to the east extending until Jaber Shopping Centre.

The centre has been set up on rock ground of 2½ dunum area approximately with two equal title deeds. One or half

Nebiolo resigns

ROME (AP) — Primo Nebiolo, credited with helping restore the popularity of international track and field, announced his resignation Saturday as the chairman of Italy's track federation.

The move came after a series of scandals that prompted criticism of his leadership.

"This was a planned decision: everyone knows how tied I am to track," he told reporters after presenting his resignation at a meeting of the ruling council of FIDAL, the national track federation.

"I will treasure the memory of many beautiful things, of projects carried out and great results, darkened but not erased by some negative moments."

Augusto Frasca, chief of the press office of FIDAL, the national track federation, said the resignation had been expected and would take effect Feb. 8.

Nebiolo, a 64-year-old industrialist, is also president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, track's world governing body.

He has been hailed as the savior of track and field for his success in promoting the sport internationally and bringing it money. On Dec. 11, he was re-elected to a four-year term as head of FIDAL.

But calls for his resignation began after a long jump was fixed at the world track and field championships in Rome in 1987 and grew louder during investigation of alleged financial wrongdoings involving FIDAL officials.

The FIDAL ruling council said in a statement that it unanimously accepted Nebiolo's resignation, which it said was "made to help resolve the problems that have gripped Italian track."

It added that the council "expresses complete solidarity with the president and thanks him for his total commitment and for the great accomplishments realised in his years as president of the federation."

Frasca said the FIDAL ruling council would hold another meeting on or before May 7 to choose a new chairman. He said a date had not yet been set.

Nebiolo was questioned in November by Roman magistrates probing alleged abuses involving a contract signed in 1980 by the Italian track federation and In-sport, a privately run company which was given state funds and sponsorship money for promoting track in Italy.

Anonimo Vinci, the deputy state prosecutor who questioned Nebiolo, said the FIDAL chairman was summoned to give testimony as a witness.

The allegations prompted the Italian Olympic committee, or CONI, to threaten to appoint a commissioner to head FIDAL.

A leading figure in the case is Luciano Barra, the powerful secretary-general of FIDAL, who resigned last year in the wake of an international scandal involving the 1987 world championships.

An independent panel found that FIDAL officials had fixed the results of the men's long jump at the championships so that Italian Giovanni Evangelisti took the bronze medal. Nebiolo was not named among the conspirators but was criticised for not taking quicker action after reports of the fix.

Investigators probing the latest scandal want to learn if there were illegalities connected to funding track promotion in Italy.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Swedes lead after Salonen ditched

KARLSTAD (AP) — A disastrous ditching on one of the final special stages Saturday cost leading ex-world champion Timo Salonen of Finland a half hour on the second stage of the Swedish rally. A quartet of Swedes in hot pursuit took over the lead and were vying for the first home victory in five years over the Finns, while Salonen dropped to a dismal 11th spot.

Nigeria beats Gabon 1-0 in qualifier

ENUGU, Nigeria (R) — Nigeria shrugged off a host of problems to beat Gabon 1-0 in their World Cup African Group C soccer match Saturday. Wole Odegbami scored in the fifth minute to delight a capacity 50,000-strong crowd after weeks of problems for the Nigerians in the build-up to the second round qualifying match. Their technical manager, West German-born Manfred Hoerner, disappeared after accusing the Nigerian Football Association (NFA) of failing to arrange for Nigerian professionals playing abroad to play in the tie.

William and Mary trounces Japanese all-stars

YOKOHAMA (AP) — William and Mary, a U.S. college football team, scored nearly every time it had the ball and shut down the Japanese all-star team, roaring to a 73-3 victory Sunday in the rain-soaked Epson Ivy Bowl. Both sides agreed that the Japanese were hurt by the problem of quickly trying to build teamwork among players from different schools. "All our passes were incomplete because of the rain and slippery ball and there was no harmony and timing between the passers and receivers," Japanese coach Mikio Shinotake said. Adding a little extra to the scoring show for the Japanese spectators, William and Mary's Steve Christie kicked a 50-yard field goal in the second quarter on one of the rare occasions when the American's drive bogged down.

Tabletennis — Asia rally against Europe

KOTA KINABALU (R) — Asia rallied from behind to take a 2-1 lead after the first leg of the Europe-Asia men's tabletennis championship Saturday night while the women's teams drew 1-1. Trailing 0-1 after Friday night, Asian men's team three beat Europe's team two 5-1 and Asian team two beat Europe team three 5-2 to take the lead over the defending champions. Taiwan's Wu Wenchia earned valuable points for the Asian men by upsetting Sweden's world number six Jorgen Persson 22-20, 21-15 and crushing Britain's Desmond Douglas 21-11, 21-10.

Game Borg set to meet his match

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Former tennis star Bjorn Borg has asked Italian singer Loredana Berté to marry him, and she has accepted. Swedish newspapers reported Saturday. "Loredana and I are marrying Feb. 26, in Milan. It will be a Catholic church wedding. Afterwards we shall live in Sweden," the Aftonbladet daily quoted the 32-year-old Swede as saying. Borg, who quit professional tennis after winning five consecutive Wimbledon titles 1976-1980, earlier was married to Romanian-born tennis-player Mariana Simionescu. In 1984 he met Jannike Bjorling, a Swedish girl, then 17 years old. About a year later she gave birth to their son Robin. They lived together until 1987.

Soviet Red army team downs Whalers 6-3

HARTFORD (AP) — Evgeny Davydov, Alexei Gusarov and Sergei Nemchinov scored in a 1-26 span midway through the first period to lead the Soviet Central Red Army to a 6-3 victory over the Hartford Whalers Saturday. Davydov snipped a 1-1 tie with a breakaway goal at 9:22. Gusarov, connected at 9:59 from the blue line on a screen and Nemchinov scored from the right post at 10:48. The Red Army led 4-1 after the first period. Valeri Zelenchuk, Alexander Chemykh and Vyacheslav Bytov also scored for the Red Army, which outshot Hartford 29-17. Ray Ferraro had a role in the three Hartford goals, scoring one and assisting on goals by Torrie Robertson and John Anderson. Hartford played without its top two scorers, Kevin Dineen and Ron Francis, who were injured.

Brazil retains slim chance

AMSTERDAM (R) — Brazil thrashed Saudi Arabia 8-0 in a group B match of the first World Indoor soccer championship Saturday, retaining a slim chance of going through to the next round after Friday's surprise defeat by Hungary. The Brazilians got two goals each from Sergio Benati, Carlos Toca and Neimar Valadares. But they face a tough test in their final group B game Sunday when they meet Spain, who are already sure of qualification after beating Hungary 5-3 for their second win. With Hungary facing the Saudis in their last game for what should be an easy victory, Brazil will need a big win to qualify ahead of Hungary on goals.

Paris-Dakar Rally

Toss of coin decides frontrunner

PARIS (R) — French car makers Peugeot decided the probable winner of the 1989 Paris-Dakar rally on the toss of a coin Saturday with six days and 4,000 kms still to drive.

Finn Ari Vatanen, who like his team-mate Jacky Ickx was some two hours ahead of the field, was selected as Peugeot's number one driver.

Belgian Ickx, the overall leader by five minutes after Saturday's stage, was ordered by team chiefs to ease off and let Vatanen move ahead, ending a duel between the two men.

International Motorsports Federation (FISA) president Jean-Marie Balestre reacted angrily. "The decision makes Peugeot look ridiculous as a company and makes the race look stupid," he said.

Peugeot chief Jean Todt said that with such a big gap after Saturday's 641-km stage in Niger from Niamey to Gao, the team wanted to safeguard its expectations of winning by eliminating competition between its two drivers.

"A 10-franc coin decided it because at the end of this stage at Gao Ari and Jacky drove fast, too fast when they've got a two-hour advantage," Todt told French television.

"I think everyone knows that Peugeot is racing for the corporate image, to promote the cars, and if we left them to drive fast, if there had been a serious accident or one of them had to abandon, no-one would have understood," he added.

The only way to prevent Vatanen winning now is for another driver to make up the two-hour gap.

Rally organiser Gilbert Sabine also condemned the move. "I'm very sad to see the Paris-Dakar turned into a Paris-Gao. I'd like to have seen Peugeot, who have won this rally twice, come away with a bit more panache," he said.

Provisional Overall Standings:

1. Ickx/Tarin 15 hours, 02 minutes and 52 seconds
2. Vatanen/Berglund five minutes and eight seconds behind
3. Tambay/Lemoigne 2:09.43
4. M. Tjisterman/K. Tjisterman (Netherlands) Mitsubishi 4:58.03
5. Frequelien/Fenouil 5:33.01
6. Jean-Pierre Fontenay/Bruno Musmara (France) Mitsubishi 5:48.44
7. Gerard Sarrazin/Gerard Trouble (France) Toyota 5:53.28
8. Ken Shinozuka/H. Magne (Japan/France) Mitsubishi 6:07.39
9. Prieto/Juncosa 6:24.08
10. S. Servia (no co-driver) (Spain) Land Rover 6:41.57

Balestre pledged to take measures to stop factory team participating in major rallies. "This is not a sport for financial and industrial interests, it's a man's sport," he said.

The Peugeot decision means that if, for example, Vatanen suffered a puncture, Ickx would have to give him a wheel from his own car.

Vatanen said he disagreed with the move. "I was against it, but it's their decision."

But Ickx, who had a five-minute lead over Vatanen, was graceful in defeat. "Jean Todt had no other alternative than to make a choice. It would have been stupid to let the two top drivers go faster than was needed."

Vatanen won Saturday's stage despite rolling his car twice in the Niger Desert. Passing motorcyclists helped him to right his Peugeot 405.

Ickx finished five minutes later and Patrick Tambay was 18 minutes behind the Finn in his Mitsubishi.

Sukova soars to title

BRISBANE (AP) — Helena Sukova ended an 18-month spell without a tournament victory by beating Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (8-6) Sunday in the final of the \$150,000 Danone Australian women's hardcourt tennis championships.

The tall, top-seeded Czech player, ranked eighth in the world, took two hours, eight minutes to subdue ninth-seeded Schultz, the Wimbledon junior champion.

Sukova, whose last Virginia Slims series victory came at Eastbourne in 1987, recorded her third success in Australia in a month. She led Czechoslovakia to victory in the Federation Cup team event in Melbourne in December and then teamed with compatriot Miloslav Mecir to win the Hopman Cup exhibition team event in Perth earlier this month.

Sukova's win was watched by her father, Czech Tennis Federation president Cyril Suk, who had never watched his daughter win a tournament.

"I hit with my father all week and it paid off," Sukova said. Sukova also won the same tournament in 1984.

Schultz had set points in both sets, but although she hit the ball with tremendous power she lacked Sukova's composure on the crucial points.

Schultz led 6-5 in the first set tie-break and had another set point in the 10th game of the second set, but over-hit hit on both occasions.

Both sets were battles of attrition with Schultz whipping the ball across court and unleashing countless powerful forehands, keeping Sukova pinned to the baseline.

"I knew she was going to hit

the ball that hard," Sukova said. "She hits so hard and so deep it was difficult getting to the net."

Schultz was given a code violation warning in the seventh game of the second set after squandering three break points on Sukova's serve.

She kept her cool to hold serve and forced the match to a second tie-break in which she saved three match points before finally succumbing to a relentlessly consistent opponent.

Sukova earned \$25,000 for her victory. Schultz, ranked 40th in the world, collected \$12,750. The tournament was one of several warm-up events for the Ford Australian Open, which will be played from Jan. 16-29 at the National Tennis Centre in Melbourne.

Qingwu's win startles

HONG KONG (R) — Surprise finalist Zhang Qingwu completed an unexpected march to glory Sunday when he beat fellow Chinese defending champion Xiong Guobao to win the men's singles final at the \$150,000 Grand Prix badminton finals.

Zhang, 26, overcame the normally-consistent Xiong 10-15, 15-4, 15-8 to clinch his first Grand Prix title. "It's a great feeling to win," he said. "Xiong's strength went during the second game."

World champion Han Aiping captured the women's singles crown and two further victories in the doubles enabled China to carry off all but one of the five finals.

China's attempt to sweep all five titles was foiled by Malaysian brothers Jalani and Razif Sidek, who won the men's double.

Zhang, who lost to Morten Frost of Denmark in the group matches, owed his semifinal appearance to an unexpected defeat by Indonesia's Eddy Kurniawan.

"I thanked Eddy after the match," said Zhang. "Without him I would not even have reached the semifinal."

Han avenged two previous defeats by South Korean youngster Lee Young-Suk to take the women's singles crown 11-1, 11-5. Han was in a determined mood as the 18-year-old deserted her normal aggressive game for a cautious approach.

"If she had played the way she did in the semifinal against Li Lingwei it would have been a better match," said Han.

Tyson vows regular fights

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson vowed Saturday to be the Mike Tyson of old — "at least when it comes to boxing."

Tyson, who has not had a fight in seven months, said he intends to begin fighting regularly again, and wants to fight every two months on a world tour after meeting Frank Bruno on Feb. 25 in Las Vegas.

"When I have these long layoffs I get in trouble," said Tyson, whose last fight was a 91-second knockout of Michael Spinks last June. "After this fight, I'm going to continue fighting every eight weeks or so."

Tyson said he wanted to "tour the whole world, maybe go to Asia" in a series of fights he wants handled by promoter Don King, his latest "adviser."

Tyson appeared lighter and was in good spirits during an

hour-long talk with a handful of reporters gathered in a suite at the Las Vegas Hilton, where he will fight Bruno.

Tyson touched off briefly on his well-publicised estrangement with wife Robin Givens and the allegations by Givens that he beat her while they lived together.

"I'm just a normal guy," the 22-year-old said. "I'm not a tyrant. I just don't take garbage. I want to run my household just like you want to run your household. I'm going to live the way I want to live anyway."

King was at Tyson's side throughout the session, but the heavyweight champion answered his own questions seldom deferred to the promoter, who he wants to handle the world tour.

"Mike Tyson is the boss," said King. "Whatever Mike Tyson wants to do, I'll formulate it."

Tyson is currently engaged in a lawsuit with his estranged manager Bill Cayton, whom he and King want out of the picture. Tyson is scheduled to give depositions Monday and Tuesday in the suit.

Cayton negotiated the contract for the Bruno fight, which was originally supposed to be in London but was moved to the United States after five different delays because Tyson did not want to fight out of the country.

Although Tyson will receive more than \$8 million for the Bruno fight, he expressed dissatisfaction with the purse, in an apparent allusion to Cayton.

"Somebody made a bad deal," Tyson said. "Luckily it wasn't a bad deal made when I was starving for money. After this fight, it's a whole different deal."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

TOO CLEVER BY HALF

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ A 2

♥ 7 5

♦ A 10 4

♣ A J 9 7 5 3

WEST

♠ 10 6 4

♥ 8 6 3

♦ 9 7 5

♣ 10 2

EAST

♠ 9

♥ A K Q 10 4 2

♦ J 6 3

♣ 8 6 4

SOUTH

♠ K J 8 7 5 3

♥ J 9

♦ K Q 8 2

♣ K

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠

Sometimes it doesn't pay to be too clever. You can alert a perceptive declarer to wonder what's going on, and he might come up with the right answer.

Note North's bidding. Since the auction marked his partner with at least five spades, North saw no reason to rebid his clubs another time. Instead, he took preference to his partner's first suit, and South needed no further urging to contract for game—knowledge that his partner had something in spades was

enough.

West led the top of his hearts to his partner's queen, and East con-

tinued with the king as West produced the six. Had East simply

declared with a minor-suit card, declarer would surely have been de-

feated—he would have won, cashed the ace of spades and continued

with a trump. When East failed to follow, declarer would have had no way to recover; he would inevitably

have had to lose two trump tricks. However, East elected to try to

weaken declarer's trump holding by continuing with a third heart, giving

declarer a ruff-shuff he did not need. Declarer ruffed in hand, and

began to ask himself why East had adopted such an unusual defense. He came to the conclusion that West

was trying to protect his partner's trump tricks.

Declarer continued with a spade to the ace, and East's nine strength-

ened declarer's suspicions. Backing his card-reading skill, declarer

cashied the king of clubs and three rounds of diamonds, ending in dummy. He discarded a diamond on

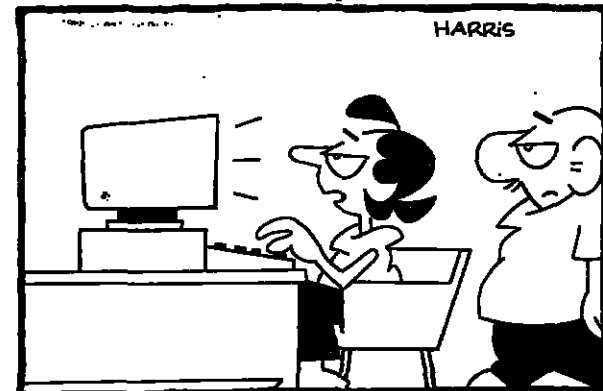
the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Now declarer exited with the eight

of spades. West won with the ten, but he had to lead from his queen

into declarer's K-J tenace, so South had his ten tricks.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

These new forms are something else

WHAT THE FISHERMAN'S GROSS INCOME WAS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: AS

Yesterday's Jumbles: SNOWY CATCH INLAID GYRATE

Answer: How the miser got rich—THE "HOARD" WAY

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword

by Jeanne Wilson

ACROSS

1 Move slowly

2 Too bad!

3 Pt. colina

4 Panthouze

5 It resort

6 Soprano

7 Burger

8 Artist Andrew

9 Baseball name

10 Orient

11 Barker's spile?

12 "The Beverly Hillsbillies"

13 Ruler abbr.

14 Teutonic abbr.

15 Nanking natty

16 Cave dweller

17 Trees

18 Chevalier's gift?

19 Kitchen tool

20 Author Harle

21 Puzzle theme

22 Musical work

23 Fold

24 Major job?

25 Yens

26 Explosive

27 Eat with

28 Tchrs. gp.

29 Oolong

30 Give in

31 Medieval

32 Talent scout?

33 Comics' Kett

34 Valley

35 Garments

36 Gael

37 Writer

38 Wise

39 "— to be alone"

40 Corner

41 School VIP

42 Saw

43 DOWN

44 Cornfield cry

45 Avine of music

46 Exist

47 4

ANC to close Angola camps

LUSAKA (Agencies) — The African National Congress (ANC) said Sunday it planned to dismantle guerrilla camps in Angola to support peace accords aimed at ending the conflicts in Namibia and Angola.

Cuba, South Africa and Angola signed agreements in New York last month binding South Africa to give independence to Namibia and providing for a phased withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

ANC President Oliver Tambo said in a statement marking the 77th anniversary of the founding of the organisation, which is fighting to end white domination in South Africa, that the accords constituted "an advance of great strategic significance" for Southern Africa.

"It is against this background that the African National Congress

in consultation with the fraternal government of the People's Republic of Angola and other friendly African countries, has readily agreed to move our military personnel from Angola so as not to allow the racism (South Africans) and their allies to use the presence of ANC military facilities as an excuse for blocking or otherwise delaying the process now in motion," he stated.

He did not indicate where the fighters would be moved to but said the ANC's fight would continue and be intensified.

"The armed struggle is more vital than ever before..." Tambo

said. "Our approach must be that of militant mass defiance," he added.

Sources close to the ANC told Reuters dismantling of the military camps had already begun because alternative bases had been found. They did not say where the new camps were being established.

Pretoria had demanded the removal of ANC camps from Angola during U.S.-brokered talks which began last May and resulted in the December peace accords.

The first contingent of Cuban troops is expected to leave for home Tuesday while a U.N.-supervised Namibian independence process is scheduled to begin April 1.

The Cubans have been fighting alongside Angolan government forces since 1975 against right-wing rebels of UNITA — the

National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — which is backed by the United States and South Africa.

Pretoria has ruled mineral-rich Namibia, which borders Angola, for 73 years. In recent years it has defied U.N. demands for the territory's independence.

Pullout verification

To verify Cuba's withdrawal of its soldiers from Angola, the United Nations "will trust the information given by both countries" about the troop pullout, a newspaper reported Sunday.

"The two countries are allies — there is no reason to mistrust them," said Pericles Ferreira Gomes, a Brazilian brigadier general who is commanding the U.N.'s Angola verification mis-

sion in Luanda, Angola. Gomes said in an interview with the New York Times, published in the newspaper's Sunday edition, that the United Nations verification of whether Cuba is withdrawing its troops as promised will be based on trust.

When asked how he would be able to verify whether Cuba had completely withdrawn its forces by July 1, 1991, as required by the agreement, Ferreira said: "When they tell us there are no more troops, we will tell the United Nations that they have gone."

"We will trust the information given by both countries. It would not be normal for two countries to sign an agreement and not to fulfill it."

Under its U.N. mandate, Ferreira's mission "is to verify the redeployment northward and total withdrawal of Cubans from Angola," the Times reported.

130 states to attend Hirohito's funeral

TOKYO (AP) — An elaborate state funeral for Japan's late Emperor Hirohito Feb. 24 is expected to draw dignitaries from 130 nations, but the event honoring the nation's longest-reigning monarch will not be a forum for "funeral diplomacy," a government official said Sunday.

Hirohito's body, wrapped in a white cloth, was placed in a coffin Sunday at the Fushimi Palace where he died Saturday of intestinal cancer at age 87.

Japan's longest-reigning monarch will rest at three locations on the wooded imperial palace grounds during the 48 days before his funeral at a 60-hectare landscaped garden in Tokyo, the site of his father's funeral 62 years ago, according to a tentative schedule by the Imperial Household Agency.

Among the 21 burial rites to be performed are ceremonies to purify the mausoleum where Hirohito will be buried, enshrine his spirit and mark the departure of his body from the palace for the funeral site.

According to Japanese custom, the imperial household staff, and possibly members of Hirohito's family, will keep a constant vigil by his body from the 13th day of his death until the funeral.

Dignitaries from about 130 nations were expected to attend the ceremony, which will be based on the native Shinto religion and presided over by the new Emperor Akihito.

"The Japanese people will be very happy if some high-ranking representatives are sent from other countries," a Foreign Ministry official told reporters. "But we have no intention of utilizing the occasion for any so-called 'funeral diplomacy.'"

The Kyoto News Service reported, however, that meetings between Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and foreign leaders attending the funeral will be arranged by the ministry.

King Baudouin I and Queen Fabiola of Belgium have confirmed they will attend the state funeral.

Security will be a major concern, and security measures will be comparable to those at the 1986 Tokyo summit of industrial democracies, said the ministry official.

The Japanese cabinet approved the Feb. 24 funeral date Sunday, the first in a long line of state and palace procedures to prepare for Hirohito's burial, expected to be attended by about 10,000 people.

Takeshita will serve as chairman of a special committee to oversee preparation for the funeral, with Feb. 24 expected to be made a national holiday.

Palace officials released a long list of imperial rites, some elaborate, others simple, leading up to the burial at a designated imperial mausoleum in western Tokyo where his father, former Emperor Taisho, also is buried.

Representatives of the



New Emperor Akihito

Japanese people will salute Hirohito, who reigned for more than 62 years on Japan's Chrysanthemum Throne, in a palace ceremony in the weeks before the funeral, the Imperial Household Agency said.

The cabinet decided to close Japan's stock, commodity and currency market on the day of the funeral, and Kyodo News Service reported that banks and other financial institutions may also be closed.

'Lean and mean' case against North

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prosecution's request to drop the most sweeping and controversial Iran-contra charges against Oliver L. North could make it easier to put the former presidential aide on trial, legal experts say.

The most politically explosive charges, alleging a conspiracy to divert to Nicaraguan rebels \$14 million in proceeds from U.S.-Iran arms sales, will be gone if the dismissal move by independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh succeeds.

But some experts say that would leave a "lean and mean" case against North, free of problems that have bogged down the proceedings for months.

District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell will decide whether to grant the dismissal motion. If he does, prosecutors will still be able to try the former National Security Council aide on 12 felony charges, including allegations that he shredded documents and lied both to Congress and a presidential inquiry in an effort to conceal his involvement in the Iran-contra affair.

"The sex appeal part of this case is always the conspiracy," said Washington Attorney Stanley Brand. "But there is still a substantial case left."

"Lying to Congress and obstruction of justice are not small matters, if in fact that's what happened," said Brand, a former counsel to the House of Representatives.

"Lying to the Congress may be worse" than actually diverting arms-sale proceeds to help the Contras at a time lawmakers had banned such assistance to the rebels, Brand said.

"The public's perception of this and what it says about the distribution of powers among the branches of government is as important to me as whether anybody goes to jail," he added.

The remaining counts carry prison terms totalling 60 years. They include charges that North lied to Congress in 1985 and 1986 about his involvement in the covert contra resupply operation.

North also is accused of accepting installation of a \$13,800 security fence around his suburban Virginia home, pocketing at least \$4,300 in travellers checks from contra leader Adolfo Calero and illegally using a tax-exempt foundation to raise money for the rebels.

Other counts charge that North lied to Attorney General Edwin Meese III and destroyed official documents during the Nov. 20 to 23, 1986, presidential investigation of the Iran-contra affair.

struction of justice are not small matters, if in fact that's what happened," said Brand, a former counsel to the House of Representatives.

"Lying to the Congress may be worse" than actually diverting arms-sale proceeds to help the Contras at a time lawmakers had banned such assistance to the rebels, Brand said.

"The public's perception of this and what it says about the distribution of powers among the branches of government is as important to me as whether anybody goes to jail," he added.

The remaining counts carry prison terms totalling 60 years. They include charges that North lied to Congress in 1985 and 1986 about his involvement in the covert contra resupply operation.

North also is accused of accepting installation of a \$13,800 security fence around his suburban Virginia home, pocketing at least \$4,300 in travellers checks from contra leader Adolfo Calero and illegally using a tax-exempt foundation to raise money for the rebels.

Other counts charge that North lied to Attorney General Edwin Meese III and destroyed official documents during the Nov. 20 to 23, 1986, presidential investigation of the Iran-contra affair.

struction of justice are not small matters, if in fact that's what happened," said Brand, a former counsel to the House of Representatives.

"Lying to the Congress may be worse" than actually diverting arms-sale proceeds to help the Contras at a time lawmakers had banned such assistance to the rebels, Brand said.

"The public's perception of this and what it says about the distribution of powers among the branches of government is as important to me as whether anybody goes to jail," he added.

The remaining counts carry prison terms totalling 60 years. They include charges that North lied to Congress in 1985 and 1986 about his involvement in the covert contra resupply operation.

North also is accused of accepting installation of a \$13,800 security fence around his suburban Virginia home, pocketing at least \$4,300 in travellers checks from contra leader Adolfo Calero and illegally using a tax-exempt foundation to raise money for the rebels.

Other counts charge that North lied to Attorney General Edwin Meese III and destroyed official documents during the Nov. 20 to 23, 1986, presidential investigation of the Iran-contra affair.

Violence rages in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Tamil fighters ambushed a Sri Lankan army truck, killing three soldiers and their civilian driver, military officials said Sunday.

Three other soldiers were seriously wounded in the attack late Saturday night near Padaviya, 235 kilometres northeast of Colombo, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

They said guerrillas hiding in dense jungle on either side of the road opened fire with machine guns and pistols when the truck approached. The guerrillas fled into the jungle with four Chinese-made T-56 semiautomatic rifles taken from the truck, the military officials added.

They said the guerrillas belonged to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest of the Tamil separatist groups that have been fighting the Sri Lankan government and killing Sinhalese civilians since 1983.

Tamils make up about 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. Militant Tamils want to establish an independent nation in the northeastern part of the island to combat what they say is discrimination by Sinhalese, who dominate the government and comprise 75 per cent of the population.

Indian peacekeeping troops were dispatched to Sri Lanka in July 1987 to try to disarm the Tigers, whose insurrection has claimed more than 8,500 lives in the past six years.

India to withdraw

India announced Jan. 1 it would withdraw some of its 50,000 troops on the island off the South Indian coast. One battalion, estimated by the Indian high commission to number 2,500 to 3,000 men, left last week.

An official at the embassy said another battalion started leaving Sunday.

More troops will be withdrawn in phases "depending on the situation on the ground," according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Sri Lankan government is likely to lift a five-year-old state of emergency this week despite continuing rebel violence across the island, officials said Sunday.

The government announced last month that the emergency, in force since May 1983, would be allowed to lapse Jan. 15.

But a senior government official said it was likely to be lifted ahead of schedule. "The government is seriously considering Tuesday or Wednesday as the day for the removal of the emergency," he said.



A mother and her children huddle in the rain as they attend a memorial service in Lockerbie, Scotland, for victims of Pan Am Flight 103.

Crash victim's family receives wrong body

ROCHESTER, New York (AP) — The family of a Syracuse University student killed in the explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 learned shortly before her scheduled funeral that they received the wrong body, her father said.

"I know my daughter is still out there somewhere, either in Scotland, unidentified, or shipped somewhere else," Robert Hunt said Saturday. "And we have a body here that some family is grieving over."

Hunt said the body of his daughter, Karen, was examined by the Monroe County medical examiner's office Friday. Examiners determined Saturday through dental records and X-rays that it wasn't Karen's body, he said.

"They told me this (Saturday) morning they were 100-per-cent positive it wasn't Karen's body," he said in a telephone interview from his home in the Rochester suburb of Webster.

Dr. Frederick J. Halik, a specialist in dental identification of the dead, said he determined the body was not Karen's after examining it in the medical examiner's office Saturday.

"Nothing matched... just about nothing," Halik said.

Dr. Nicholas Forbes, chief medical examiner, said other physical discrepancies also existed.

British officials in Lockerbie said they were investigating. "A question has been raised regarding the body of Karen Hunt," officials said in a terse statement. "The matter is the subject of further discussion and examination by appropriate medical specialists."

Hunt received word Tuesday from authorities in Scotland that the body of his daughter, who would have turned 21 Saturday, had been identified.

Miss Hunt's aunt then called officials in Scotland to get a description of the clothes on the body, he said.

"What the person over there described didn't sound like Karen's," Hunt said.

The funeral, which had been scheduled for Friday, was postponed.

Hunt said he's concerned another family might receive Karen's body and cremate it without knowing its true identity.

"You can exhume a body, but you can't identify it once it's been cremated," he said.

The New York-bound Boeing 747 blew up Dec. 21 over Lockerbie, killing all 259 people aboard Flight 103. Eleven others died on the ground after wreckage and blazing jet fuel rained down on Lockerbie.

Miss Hunt was returning to New York after completing a one-semester programme in Syracuse University's programme in London.

Search continues

Four hundred police, troops and civilian volunteers are continuing search of remote areas of northernmost England Saturday for debris from the Pan Am jet.

Twenty-eight bodies were still missing.

The main search area has moved almost 100 kilometres east of Lockerbie, in Northumberland, England's northernmost county.

COLUMN

Mid-air sex 'not kosher'

TEL AVIV (R) — The chief rabbi of Tiberias has revoked the kosher food licence of a hotel for allowing a naked couple to have sex in a helicopter hovering above its pool during a New Year party, the Jerusalem Post said Sunday. The newspaper said the 20-minute live aerial sex act, the main attraction of the sold-out party at the Tiberias club hotel, was watched by guests from their bedrooms. Chief rabbi David Peretz said the hotel had sinned and did not deserve a license to serve Jewish kosher food. "The directors of the hotel are completely nuts," Tiberias Mayor Yigal Bibi was quoted by the newspaper as saying.

Airline ejects Zsa Zsa Gabor

ATLANTA (R) — Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor was ejected from a Delta Air Lines jet at Atlanta airport after refusing to cage her two Shih Tzu dogs — Genghis Kahn and Macho Man — in flight, an airline spokesman said Friday. Delta spokesman Bill Berry said Gabor refused six separate requests to confine the dogs to their cages during a flight Thursday night. She finally stepped off the plane at Atlanta's Hartsfield international airport when a policeman was summoned. Gabor was ejected from the Delta flight on its scheduled Atlanta, Georgia, stop en route from Los Angeles to her home in Palm Beach, Florida. She later continued on an Eastern Airlines flight. Berry said Delta ordinarily requires pets to be shipped in the pressurized baggage compartments of Delta jets. But the actress had received special permission to carry the small dogs in special kennels which fit under an airline seat. "She had one of the dogs with her in first class and she had a maid with her who had the other dog in the coach section," Berry said. He said both dogs were let loose and allowed to run through the cabin of the plane. When a flight attendant asked Gabor to return the dogs to their cages, "she was quite abusive language-wise," Berry said.

Drug prevents ulcers for some arthritis medicine users

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced approval Tuesday of a new prescription drug it said can prevent stomach ulcers that afflict some of the millions of people who take medicine for arthritis. To be marketed under the trade name Cytotec by G.D. Searle the drug — Misoprostol — is to be labelled for use in patients at high risk for developing complications of stomach ulcers while on arthritis drugs. That would include the elderly and patients of any age with other serious illness. In those high-risk patients, the FDA said, the ulcers may not cause pain and as a result go undetected until they have caused bleeding or other serious consequences. The FDA said there are an estimated 200,000 cases of gastrointestinal bleeding each year — resulting in 10,000 to 20,000 deaths — due to the 68 million prescriptions of non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs called NSAIDs used for arthritis. Among the most commonly used medicines in that category are high-dose Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Piroxicam and Naproxen.

Johnson, Griffith re-marrying

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Miami Vice" star Don Johnson and his ex-wife, actress Melanie Griffith, plan to re-marry, Johnson's publicist said Monday. "No date has been set," Elliott Mintz said in a statement by telephone from Aspen, Colorado. He wouldn't disclose where the wedding will be or where the couple is spending the holidays. "Both Don and Melanie wish to enjoy this very special time together," Mintz said. "In order to provide a sense of dignity and privacy, there will be no press conference, photo opportunities, interviews or further statement." Miss Griffith, 31, star of the current hit movie "Working Girl," was married briefly to the then-little-known Johnson when she was a teen-ager. She is the daughter of actress Tippi Hedren. She later married, then divorced, actor Steven Bauer, and they have son, Alexander, 3½ year-old. Johnson recently was romantically involved with entertainer Barbara Streisand, and the two sang together on the top 10 adult contemporary hit "Till I Loved You." Johnson, 39, has a 5-year-old son from his relationship with Patti D'Arbanville. Johnson plays the scruffy vice cop Sonny Crockett on the U.S. television NBC network series.

Drug barons outgun, outman and outspend forces of law

MEXICO CITY (R) — By normal business standards, Latin America's multi-billion drug trade should be in deep trouble.

Shipments of cocaine worth far in excess of one billion dollars were lost through seizures in 1988. Top executives of the trade are in jail. Trusted bankers have been arrested for money-laundering. Even Switzerland's status as a safe haven for profits is in doubt.

Rival organisations in the Colombian cities of Medellin and Cali have begun killing each other in murderous competition for the lucrative New York cocaine market. Colombian officials report. They put the death toll at more than 150 this year.

"By rights, the (drug) business should be in trouble," said a South American narcotics expert recently. "It suffered terrible blows this year."

Anti-drug forces won important battles, but the outlaws are still winning the war.

U.S. officials paint an equally gloomy picture. "We are being outgunned, outmaneuvered and outspent... by international criminal organisations," Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics matters Ann Wroblewski told Reuters in an interview in Washington a few months ago.

For the forces of law and order, important 1988 victories ranged from a succession of seizures, each breaking the previous world record, to the capture of Bolivia's Roberto Suarez, reputed to be the world's biggest grower of Coca leaf — the raw material for cocaine.

Carlos Lehder, the most flamboyant of the Colombian drug lords, was sentenced to life plus 135 years by a Florida court in July for moving ton-

nes of cocaine into the U.S. In the course of the year, more than 12 tonnes of cocaine were seized in the United States alone. In Mexico, the army discovered a cache of 4.8 tonnes awaiting shipment to the U.S.

In Europe, customs officers seized roughly five tonnes in 1988, three times as much as in 1987, according to Interpol, the International Police Organisation.

A ton of cocaine is worth more than \$100 million once the drug is diluted for street use in the United States. In Europe, the value is roughly five times as high.

Almost all the world's cocaine is produced in South America, with Colombia the leading exporter of the refined product and Peru and Bolivia the biggest growers of coca leaf and suppliers of coca paste, from which cocaine powder is refined.

Not just the marketing end of the business has been hit. Putting the trade's huge profits into safe places is becoming more difficult as well.

In September, U.S. authorities arrested five executives of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International on charges of having laundered \$30 million of cocaine money through the Luxembourg-based bank with a year.

A month after the arrests, a public prosecutor in Switzerland said drug dealers may have laundered between \$1 and 1.3 billion through Swiss banks. The government banking commission in Switzerland, where money-laundering is not an offence, said it was investigating.

Despite the successes scored world-wide by anti-drug forces, experts in the Latin American drug producing countries and the United

States — the main market for illicit drugs — say the future is bleak for the anti-drug battle.

The area under-coc cultivation has increased in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). There is so much supply that even the year's record breaking busts have not driven up street prices.

"One kingpin is arrested and his lieutenant takes his place. One shipment is busted and another one gets through. One supply line is cut and another one is opened," said a senior DEA agent in Latin America.

With supply lines to Florida, long the chief point of entry for Latin American cocaine, being threatened by better enforcement, Colombia's cocaine lords began routing huge shipments through Mexico, according to

experts there.

The traffickers take advantage of Mexico's porous 3,120-kilometre border with the United States. Now, estimates say more than a third of the cocaine consumed in the U.S. comes in from Mexico.

In another move to open new supply lines, traffickers turned Ecuador into a major new transshipment centre. The DEA estimates that 30 tonnes of cocaine were moved through Ecuador this year.

At the same time Colombian cocaine smugglers began producing heroin — both in Colombia and remote areas of Mexico — in an attempt to break into the U.S. heroin market, experts say.

Some U.S. officials fear that this points to worrying changes in consumption patterns.

"There are some indications that heroin use is break-

ing out of the ghettos and moving into middle class neighbourhoods," a DEA agent said recently. "There could well be room for expansion (in the market)."

Experts agree that without demand in the U.S. and other industrial countries, there would be no supply of drugs. But some insist that the aggressive marketing techniques of the Colombian cocaine conglomerates contributed to the spread of cocaine use.

It almost trebled over the past decade and stood at 79 tonnes last year. Despite the seizures, the 1988 volume is expected to be higher.

"As a rule of thumb, law enforcement agencies reckon that 10 per cent of smuggled goods are seized," said a veteran narcotics agent. "But in the case of drugs, this is probably over-optimistic."